SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-71936; File No. SR-BYX-2014-006)

April 11, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; BATS Y-Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Related to Fees for Use of BATS Y-Exchange, Inc.

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 April 8, 2014, BATS Y-Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BYX") 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 Exchange. The Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as one establishing or changing a member due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, ⁴ which renders the proposed rule change 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 the Substance of the Proposed</u>
<u>Rule Change</u>

The Exchange filed a proposal to amend the fee schedule applicable to Members⁵ and non-members of the Exchange pursuant to BYX Rules 15.1(a) and (c). Changes to the fee schedule pursuant to this proposal are effective upon filing.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

A Member is defined as "any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange." <u>See Exchange Rule 1.5(n)</u>.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at http://www.batstrading.com, 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 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 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 modify its fee schedule applicable to use of the Exchange in order to modify the way that, for purposes of tiered pricing, the Exchange calculates ADAV and average daily TCV (as such terms are defined below). Currently, the Exchange determines the liquidity adding fee that it charges Members pursuant to the Exchange's tiered pricing structure by excluding from the calculation of ADAV⁶ and average daily TCV⁷ any day that an Exchange Outage occurs. An Exchange Outage is defined as any day that trading is not available on the

As provided in the fee schedule, "ADAV" means average daily volume calculated as the number of shares added per day on a monthly basis; routed shares are not included in ADAV calculation.

As provided in the fee schedule, "TCV" means total consolidated volume calculated as the volume reported by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities to a consolidated transaction reporting plan for the month for which the fees apply.

Exchange for more than sixty (60) minutes during regular trading hours but continues on other markets during such time. The Exchange proposes to modify the definition of Exchange Outage to include situations where the Exchange experiences a systems disruption that lasts for more than 60 minutes during regular trading hours, even if such disruption would not be categorized as a complete outage of the Exchange's system, and to rename it as an "Exchange System Disruption." As an example, an Exchange System Disruption may occur where a certain group of securities (i.e., securities in a select symbol range such as A through C) traded on the Exchange is unavailable for trading due to an Exchange system issue. Similarly, the Exchange may be able to perform certain functions with respect to accepting and processing orders, but may have a failure to another significant process, such as routing to other market centers, that would lead Members that rely on such process to avoid utilizing the Exchange until the Exchange's entire system was operational.

The Exchange believes that this modification is reasonable because the intent of the current Exchange Outage exclusion has always been to avoid penalizing Members that might otherwise qualify for certain tiered pricing but that, because of a significant Exchange system problem, did not participate on the Exchange to the extent that they might have otherwise participated. The Exchange believes that certain systems disruptions could preclude some

The term "regular trading hours" means the "time between 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time." See Exchange Rule 1.5(w).

The Exchange notes that it also excludes the last Friday of June from the calculation of ADAV and average daily TCV. The last day of June is the day that Russell Investments reconstitutes its family of indexes ("Russell Reconstitution"), resulting in particularly high trading volumes, much of which the Exchange believes derives from market participants who are not generally as active entering the market to rebalance their holdings in-line with the Russell Reconstitution.

See SR-BATS-2014-010 (proposing to exclude Exchange System Disruptions from the definitions of ADAV, ADV and average TCV).

Members from submitting orders to the Exchange even if such issue is not actually a complete systems outage. The Exchange notes that it is not proposing to modify any of the existing fees or the percentage thresholds at which a Member may qualify for certain fee reductions pursuant to the tiered pricing structure. Rather, as mentioned above, the Exchange is proposing to modify its fee schedule to exclude trading activity occurring on any day that the Exchange experiences an Exchange System Disruption.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change 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 of the Act. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive.

The Exchange believes that its proposal is reasonable because, as explained above, it will help provide Members with a greater level of certainty as to their level of costs for trading in any month where the Exchange experiences an Exchange System Disruption on one or more trading days. The Exchange is not proposing to amend the thresholds a Member must achieve to become eligible for, or the dollar value associated with, the Exchange's tiered fees. By eliminating the inclusion of a trading day on which an Exchange System Disruption occurs the

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Exchange would almost certainly be excluding a day that would otherwise lower a Member's ADAV as a percentage of average daily TCV. Thus, the proposed change will make the majority of Members more likely to meet the minimum or higher tier thresholds, incentivizing Members to increase their participation on the Exchange in order to meet the next highest tier. In addition, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes to its fee schedule are equitably allocated among Exchange constituents and not unfairly discriminatory as the methodology for calculating ADAV and TCV will apply equally to all Members. While, although unlikely, certain Members may have a higher ADAV as a percentage of average daily TCV with their activity included from days where the Exchange experiences an Exchange System Disruption, the proposal will make all Members' cost of trading on the Exchange more predictable, regardless of how the proposal affects their ADAV as a percentage of average daily TCV.

Volume-based tiers such as the liquidity adding tiers maintained by the Exchange have been widely adopted, and are equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because they are open to all members on an equal basis and provide higher rebates or lower fees that are reasonably related to the value to an exchange's market quality associated with higher levels of market activity, such as higher levels of liquidity provision and introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery process. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposal is equitably allocated and not unfairly discriminatory because it is consistent with the overall goals of enhancing market quality. Further, the Exchange believes that a tiered pricing model not significantly altered by a day of atypical trading behavior which allows Members to predictably calculate what their costs associated with trading activity on the Exchange will be is reasonable, fair and equitable and not unreasonably discriminatory as it is uniform in application amongst Members and should enable such participants to operate their business without concern

of unpredictable and potentially significant changes in expenses.

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. The proposed change will help to promote intramarket competition by avoiding a penalty to Members for days when trading on the Exchange is disrupted for a significant portion of the day. As stated above, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if the deem fee structures to be unreasonable or excessive.

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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

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) of the Act¹³ and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

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:

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-BYX-2014-006 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.

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-BYX-2014-006. 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 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing will also 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 No.
SR-BYX-2014-006 and should be submitted on or before [21 days from publication in
the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 15

Jill M. Peterson Assistant Secretary

^{15 17} CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).