SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-57424; File No. SR-CBOE-2008-22)

March 4, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1 thereto, Extending the Dividend, Merger, and Short Stock Interest Strategies Fee Cap Pilot Program

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on February 29, 2008, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been substantially prepared by CBOE. On March 3, 2008, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposal. CBOE has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange under Section 19(b)(3)(A), and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

CBOE proposes to amend its Fees Schedule to extend until March 1, 2009, the dividend, merger, and short stock interest strategies fee cap program. The text of the proposed rule change

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

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

Amendment No. 1 made clarifying changes to the statutory basis section of the original filing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

is available at the Exchange, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and <a href="http://www.cboe.org/legal">http://www.cboe.org/legal</a>.

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

#### 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange currently caps market-maker, firm, and broker-dealer transaction fees associated with dividend, merger, and short stock interest strategies, as described in Footnote 13 of the CBOE Fees Schedule ("Strategy Fee Cap"). The Strategy Fee Cap is in effect as a pilot program that expired on March 1, 2008.

The Exchange proposes to extend the Strategy Fee Cap pilot program until March 1, 2009. No other changes are proposed. The Exchange believes that extension of the Strategy Fee Cap pilot program would enable the Exchange to remain competitive for these types of strategies by keeping fees low.

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

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4),<sup>7</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the

2

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

equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among CBOE members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange believes that the proposed extension of the Strategy Fee Cap pilot program will continue to benefit market participants who trade these strategies by lowering their fees.

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

CBOE 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</u>
Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

## III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>8</sup> and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>9</sup> because it establishes or changes a due, fee or other charge imposed by the Exchange. 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.<sup>10</sup>

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

For purposes of calculating the 60-day period within which the Commission may summarily abrogate the proposed rule change under Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, the Commission considers the period to commence on March 3, 2008, the date on which CBOE filed Amendment No. 1. See 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

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-2008-22 on the subject line.

### Paper Comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2008-22. 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of CBOE. 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-CBOE-2008-22 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from date of publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>11</sup>

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).