

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-91345; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2020-057)

March 17, 2021

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Designation of Longer Period for Commission Action on Proceedings to Determine Whether to Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, to Allow Companies to List in Connection with a Direct Listing with a Primary Offering In Which the Company Will Sell Shares Itself In the Opening Auction on the First Day of Trading on Nasdaq and to Explain How the Opening Transaction for Such a Listing Will be Effected

On September 4, 2020, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” or the “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ a proposed rule change to allow companies to list in connection with a primary offering in which the company will sell shares itself in the opening auction on the first day of trading on the Exchange and to explain how the opening transaction for such a listing will be effected. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on September 21, 2020.⁴ On November 4, 2020, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁵ the Commission designated a longer period within which to either approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.⁶

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89878 (September 15, 2020), 85 FR 59349 (September 21, 2020). Comments received on the proposal are available on the Commission’s website at: <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-nasdaq-2020-057/srnasdaq2020057.htm>.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁶ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90331 (November 4, 2020), 85 FR 71708 (November 10, 2020).

On December 17, 2020, the Commission instituted proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act⁷ to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.⁸ On February 22, 2021, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change, which superseded the proposed rule change as originally filed. The proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, was published for comment in the Federal Register on March 2, 2021.⁹

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act¹⁰ provides that, after initiating proceedings, the Commission shall issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change not later than 180 days after the date of publication of notice of the filing of the proposed rule change. The Commission may extend the period for issuing an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change, however, by not more than 60 days if the Commission determines that a longer period is appropriate and publishes the reasons for such determination. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on September 21, 2020.¹¹ The 180th day after publication of the Notice is March 20, 2021. The Commission is extending the time period for approving or disapproving the proposal for an additional 60 days.

The Commission finds that it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, along with the comments received on the proposal. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90717 (December 17, 2020), 85 FR 84025 (December 23, 2020).

⁹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 91205 (February 24, 2021), 86 FR 12245 (March 2, 2021).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹¹ See supra note **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

of the Act,¹² designates May 19, 2021, as the date by which the Commission should either approve or disapprove the proposed rule change (File No. SR-NASDAQ-2020-057), as modified by Amendment No. 1.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

J. Matthew DeLesDernier
Assistant Secretary

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(57).