SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-73587; File No. SR-NYSE-2014-61)

November 13, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend its Price List for Certain Executions at the Opening

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on November 4, 2014, New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE" or the "Exchange") 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</u> Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend its Price List for certain executions at the opening. The Exchange proposes to implement the fee change effective November 4, 2014. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at www.nyse.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</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included

¹ 15 U.S.C.78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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 those 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 the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its Price List for certain executions at the opening. The Exchange proposes to implement the fee change effective November 4, 2014.

For securities priced \$1.00 or greater, the Exchange currently charges a fee of \$0.0010 per share for executions at the opening or of \$0.0010 per share for executions at the opening only orders, subject to a monthly fee cap of \$20,000 per member organization for such executions. Designated Market Makers ("DMMs") are not charged for executions at the opening.

The Exchange proposes to modify the monthly fee cap of \$20,000 per member organization for securities priced \$1.00 or greater⁴ by adding a requirement that to qualify for this monthly fee cap, which is set forth in footnote 2 to the Price List, the member organization must execute an average daily trading volume ("ADV") that adds liquidity to the NYSE during the billing month ("Adding ADV") of at least 5,000,000 shares, excluding liquidity added by a DMM. DMM executions at the opening would

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The existing pricing for executions at the opening in securities priced below \$1.00 would also remain unchanged (<u>i.e.</u>, 0.3% of the total dollar value of the transaction).

continue to not be charged.

In addition, the Exchange proposes non-substantive, conforming changes to the text governing "Equity per Share Charge" and "Tier 1 Adding Credit – Equity per Share Credit - per transaction" to reflect that the terms "ADV" and "Adding ADV" are now defined in footnote 2.

The proposed change is not otherwise intended to address any other issues, and the Exchange is not aware of any problems that members and member organizations would have in complying with the proposed change.

2. **Statutory Basis**

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, 5 in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act, 6 in particular, because it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members, issuers and other persons using its facilities and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to add a requirement that member organizations execute Adding ADV at least 5,000,000 shares during the billing month in order to qualify for a fee cap. The proposed Adding ADV requirement will encourage the submission of additional liquidity to a national securities exchange, thereby promoting price discovery and transparency and enhancing order execution opportunities for member organizations. Moreover, the requirement is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it would apply equally to all similarly situated member organizations.

15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b).

The Exchange believes that it is subject to significant competitive forces, as described below in the Exchange's statement regarding the burden on competition.

For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act.

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

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act,⁷ the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Instead, the Exchange believes that the proposed change would contribute to the Exchange's market quality by promoting price discovery and ultimately increased competition. For the same reasons, the proposed change also would not impose any burden on competition among market participants. Pricing for executions at the opening would remain at the same relatively low levels and would continue to reflect the benefit that market participants receive through the ability to have their orders interact with other liquidity at the opening.

Finally, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees and rebates to remain competitive with other exchanges and with alternative trading systems that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees and credits in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing

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⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. As a result of all of these considerations, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes will impair the ability of member organizations or competing order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

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

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</u>
Action

The foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)^8$ of the Act and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule $19b-4^9$ thereunder, because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange.

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 under Section $19(b)(2)(B)^{10}$ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSE-2014-61 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSE-2014-61. 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 the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the NYSE's principal office and on its Internet website at www.nyse.com. 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-NYSE-2014-61 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. ¹¹

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

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¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).