

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-99704; File No. SR-NYSEARCA-2024-21)

March 11, 2024

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Modify Rule 7.31-E

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on February 26, 2024, NYSE Arca, Inc. (“NYSE Arca” or the “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to modify Rule 7.31-E regarding Primary Pegged Orders. 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. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

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 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.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 7.31-E regarding Primary Pegged Orders.

Rule 7.31-E(h) defines a Pegged Order as a Limit Order that does not route with a working price that is pegged to a dynamic reference price. If the designated reference price is higher (lower) than the limit price of a Pegged Order to buy (sell), the working price will be the limit price of the order.

Rule 7.31-E(h)(2) defines a Primary Pegged Order as a Pegged Order to buy (sell) with a working price that is pegged to the PBB (PBO), with no offset allowed. A Primary Pegged Order to buy (sell) will be rejected on arrival, or cancelled when resting, if there is no PBB (PBO) against which to peg. A Primary Pegged Order is eligible to participate in auctions at the limit price of the order, provided that, a Primary Pegged Order is not eligible to participate in the Closing Auction.

Rule 7.31-E(h)(2)(A) currently provides that a Primary Pegged Order must include a minimum of one round lot displayed. Rule 7.31-E(h)(2)(A) further provides that the working price of a Primary Pegged Order equals the display price, the display quantity is ranked Priority 2 - Display Orders, and the reserve interest is ranked Priority 3 - Non-Display Orders.

Rule 7.31-E(h)(2)(B) provides that a Primary Pegged Order will be rejected if the PBBO is locked or crossed. If the PBBO is locked or crossed when the display quantity of a Primary Pegged Reserve Order is replenished, the entire order will be cancelled. If after arrival, the PBBO becomes locked or crossed, the Primary Pegged Order will wait for a PBBO that is not locked or crossed before the display and working price are adjusted and remains eligible to trade at its current working price.

The Exchange proposes to modify Rule 7.31-E(h)(2)(A) to permit Primary Pegged Orders to be entered in any size and thus proposes to eliminate rule text currently providing that a Primary Pegged Order must include a minimum of one round lot displayed. The Exchange believes that requiring Primary Pegged Orders to be entered in round lots is unnecessary and that providing ETP Holders with the option to enter Primary Pegged Orders in odd lots could increase liquidity and enhance opportunities for order execution on the Exchange. The Exchange notes that permitting odd-lot order quantities is not novel on the Exchange or other cash equity exchanges and believes that this proposed change would align the Exchange’s handling of Primary Pegged Orders with the treatment of equivalent order types on other cash equity exchanges.⁴

Because of the technology changes associated with this proposed rule change, the Exchange will announce the implementation date by Trader Update, which, subject to effectiveness of this proposed rule change, will be in the first quarter of 2024.

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5),⁶ in particular, because it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in

⁴ See, e.g., Members Exchange Rules 11.8(c)(2) (providing that a Primary Peg Order may be entered as an odd lot, round lot, or mixed lot). The Exchange also notes that the rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq”), Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (“BZX”), and Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. (“BYX”) appear to permit orders, including orders analogous to Primary Pegged Orders, to be entered in any size. See Nasdaq Rule 4703(b) (providing that an order may be entered in any whole share size, except as otherwise provided); BZX Rule 11.2 (providing that orders are eligible for odd-lot, round-lot, and mixed-lot executions unless otherwise indicated); BYX Rule 11.2 (same).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

securities, to remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed change would promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system, and protect investors and the public interest because it would provide ETP Holders with the option to enter Primary Pegged Orders in odd-lot sized orders, which could encourage order flow to the Exchange and promote opportunities for order execution on the Exchange, to the benefit of all market participants. The Exchange notes that the proposed change would not otherwise impact the operation of Primary Pegged Orders as provided under current Exchange rules. The Exchange also believes that the proposed change would align Exchange rules with the treatment of orders analogous to Primary Pegged Orders on other cash equity exchanges, thereby removing impediments to, and perfecting the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system.⁷

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

The Exchange 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. As noted above, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change would allow the Exchange to accept Primary Pegged Orders of any size and align the Exchange's handling of such orders with other cash equity exchanges' handling of similar order types,⁸ thereby promoting competition among exchanges by offering ETP Holders options available on other cash equity exchanges. The Exchange also believes that, to the extent the proposed change would increase opportunities

⁷ See note 4, supra.

⁸ Id.

for order execution, the proposed change would promote competition by making the Exchange a more attractive venue for order flow and enhancing market quality for all market participants.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

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

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹⁰ Because the proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.¹¹

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹² normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii),¹³ the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay to allow it to accept Primary Pegged Orders of any size as soon

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

as the technology associated with the proposed change is available. The Exchange states that the proposal raises no novel issues and that waiver of the operative delay would allow the Exchange to more expeditiously offer increased flexibility to member organizations and promote additional trading opportunities for all market participants. The Commission finds that, because the proposal does not change the operation of Primary Pegged Orders, other than to expand their use to odd-lot orders, waiver of the operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Accordingly, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay and designates the proposal operative upon filing.¹⁴

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)¹⁵ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change 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 (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or

¹⁴ For purposes only of accelerating the operative date of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-NYSEARCA-2024-21 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 number SR-NYSE- SR-NYSEARCA-2024-21. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 (<https://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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file

number SR-SR-NYSEARCA-2024-21 and should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁶

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).