SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-80868; File No. SR-PEARL-2017-28)

June 6, 2017

Self-Regulatory Organizations; MIAX PEARL, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend MIAX PEARL Rule 406, Long Term Option Contracts

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on June 5, 2017, MIAX PEARL, LLC ("MIAX PEARL" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. 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 Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange is filing a proposal to amend Exchange Rule 406, Long Term Option Contracts.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at <a href="http://www.miaxoptions.com/rule-filings/pearl">http://www.miaxoptions.com/rule-filings/pearl</a> at MIAX PEARL's principal office, 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

2

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

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

in Item IV below. The Exchange 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 the Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. Purpose

The Exchange is proposing to amend Exchange Rule 406, Long Term Option Contracts, to make three simple clarifying changes to the Rule, as described below.

Currently, Exchange Rule 406(a) states that the Exchange may list long-term option contracts that expire from twelve (12) to thirty-nine (39) months from the time they are listed. The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 406(a) by defining option contracts that expire from twelve (12) to thirty-nine (39) months from the time they are listed as "long-term expiration months."

Rule 406(a) currently states that there may be "up to six additional expiration months." As currently written, the Rule does not specify which expiration months the six months are in addition to, or whether that means that there may be a total of six expiration months (with six long-term expiration months deemed "additional" expiration months) or seven expiration months (one long term expiration month plus six additional long-term expiration months), and thus is ambiguous. Accordingly, for clarity, the Exchange proposes to delete the word "additional" from Rule 406(a). As amended, the rule would clearly and simply provide that the Exchange may list six expiration months having from twelve up to thirty-nine months from the time they are listed until expiration.

Finally, in order to further clarify the Rule, the Exchange is proposing to amend Rule 406(a) to state that there may be up to six (6) long-term expiration months per option class.

Thus, there is no limit to the number of option classes for which the Exchange could list options

with long-term expiration months; the rule will now clearly state that there may be up to six long-term expiration months per class, i.e., for any class(es) in which the Exchange determines to list options with long-term expiration months.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

MIAX PEARL believes that its proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>3</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>4</sup> in particular, in that 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 securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest, by clarifying rule language associated with permitted listings of long term options on the Exchange.

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

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. The proposed rule change will have no impact on competition as it is not designed to address any competitive issues but rather to add additional clarity to, and remedy possible conflicts in, the Exchange's Rules.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule changes will impose any burden on intermarket competition as the Rules apply equally to all Exchange Members.

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

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

Because the foregoing 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 for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>5</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>6</sup>

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.

### 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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-PEARL-2017-28
  on the subject line.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). 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.

## 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-PEARL-2017-28. 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 (<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 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 also will 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-PEARL-2017-28, 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.  $^{7}$ 

Brent J. Fields Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).