SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-67580; File No. SR-CBOE-2012-073)

August 2, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend the CBOE Stock Exchange Fees Schedule

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on July 26, 2012, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("Exchange" or "CBOE") 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 prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comment on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend the Fees Schedule for its CBOE Stock Exchange ("CBSX"). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (http://www.cboe.com/AboutCBOE/CBOELegalRegulatoryHome.aspx), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, 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 in

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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 for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

CBSX proposes to amend its Fees Schedule regarding transactions in securities priced \$1 or greater. Currently, the highest Maker fee tier is for Makers who add 15 million or more shares of liquidity in one day, with the fee for such Makers being \$0.0015 per share. The Exchange proposes to add a higher Maker tier, for those Makers who add 25 million or more shares of liquidity in one day. Such Makers will be assessed a lower fee of \$0.0014 per share. Makers who add 15,000,000 – 24,999,999 shares of liquidity in one day will still be assessed the \$0.0015 per share fee.

As before, the different rates for different Maker tiers apply to all transactions in securities priced \$1 or greater made by the same market participant in any day in which such participant adds the established amount of shares or more of liquidity that is determined for each tier. Market participants who share a trading acronym or MPID may aggregate their trading activity for purposes of these rates. Qualification for these rates will require that a market participant appropriately indicate his trading acronym and/or MPID in the appropriate field on the order.

The Exchange proposes this higher tier with accompanying lower fee in order to incentivize market participants to add more liquidity to CBSX. The proposed change is to take effect on August 1, 2012.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.³ Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act⁴, which provides that Exchange rules may provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities. The proposed new Maker fee of \$0.0014 per share for Makers who add 25 million or more shares of liquidity in one day is reasonable because the amount is lower than Makers who add that amount of shares in one day currently pay.

The reduced fee tier is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will encourage market participants to trade on CBSX and bring greater liquidity to CBSX, which will benefit all market participants. By encouraging market participants to hit a threshold of executing greater amounts of shares a day (at which point such market participants would receive the corresponding lower Maker fees for all shares executed by the market participant that day), the Exchange incentivizes market participants who may be able to meet that threshold to add more volume and liquidity to the CBSX marketplace. This increased volume and liquidity would benefit all CBSX market participants, including those who do not trade at the higher levels, by providing them with more opportunities for execution. Orders that provide liquidity increase the likelihood that CBSX market participants seeking to access liquidity will have their orders filled. If the lower rates did not exist for market participants who execute increased amounts of shares a day, even those market participants who do not hit those thresholds would not receive the benefit of this added volume and liquidity. As such, the Exchange believes that it is reasonable and

³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

equitable to use pricing incentives, such as lower fees for creating large amounts of liquidity, to encourage market participants to increase their participation in the market.

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

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on 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)⁵ of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4⁶ thereunder. 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

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

^{6 17} C.F.R. 240.19b-4(f).

Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2012-073 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2012-073. 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 such 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 Number SR-CBOE-2012-073 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

6

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).