

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

Page 1 of * 29	SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4	File No.* SR - 2020 - * 26	Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)
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Filing by Nasdaq ISE, LLC
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment * <input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(A) * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(B) * <input type="checkbox"/>
			Rule		
Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Expires * <input type="text"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4)	
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5)	
			<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3)	<input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)	

Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
Section 806(e)(1) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 806(e)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>
Section 3C(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	

Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>
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Description

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).

A proposal to amend the Exchange Pricing Schedule at Options 7.

Contact Information

Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.

First Name * Sun	Last Name * Kim
Title * Associate General Counsel	
E-mail * Sun.Kim@Nasdaq.com	
Telephone * (646) 420-7816	Fax

Signature

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

(Title *)

Date 07/01/2020	EVP and Chief Legal Officer
By John A. Zecca (Name *)	

john.zecca@nasdaq.com

NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information *

Add Remove View

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *

Add Remove View

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies *

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Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

Add Remove View

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

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Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.

Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

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The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.

Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text

Add Remove View

The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change.

Partial Amendment

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If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Nasdaq ISE, LLC (“ISE” or “Exchange”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposal to amend the Exchange’s Pricing Schedule at Options 7, as described further below.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is attached as Exhibit 1. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the “Board”) on September 25, 2019. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Sun Kim
Associate General Counsel
Nasdaq, Inc.
646-420-7816

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

a. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend the Exchange’s Pricing Schedule at Options 7. Each change is described below.

Response Fees

Today, for regular orders in Non-Select Symbols,³ the Exchange charges all market participants a fee for Responses to Crossing Orders⁴ (except PIM orders) that is \$0.50 per contract. For complex orders in Non-Select Symbols, this Response fee is \$0.91 per contract for Market Makers⁵ and \$0.96 per contract for all other market participants. In addition, for regular orders in Select Symbols⁶ and Non-Select Symbols, the Exchange currently charges all market participants a fee for Responses to PIM orders that is \$0.35 per contract. For complex orders in both Select and Non-Select Symbols, the PIM Response fee is likewise \$0.35 per contract for all market participants.

The Exchange now proposes to increase the Response fees described above. Specifically, the fees for Responses to Crossing Orders (except PIM orders) in Non-Select Symbols for both regular and complex orders will increase to \$1.10 per contract

³ “Non-Select Symbols” are options overlying all symbols excluding Select Symbols.

⁴ “Responses to Crossing Orders” is any contra-side interest submitted after the commencement of an auction in the Exchange’s Facilitation Mechanism, Solicited Order Mechanism, Block Order Mechanism or Price Improvement Mechanism (“PIM”).

⁵ “Market Makers” are “Competitive Market Makers” and “Primary Market Makers” collectively. See Options 1, Section 1(a)(21).

⁶ “Select Symbols” are options overlying all symbols listed on the Nasdaq ISE that are in the Penny Interval Program.

for all market participants. In addition, the fees for Responses to PIM orders in Select Symbols for regular and complex orders will increase to \$0.50 per contract for all market participants. Lastly, the fees for Responses to PIM orders in Non-Select Symbols for regular and complex orders will increase to \$1.10 per contract for all market participants.

Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate

Currently, the Exchange provides a Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebate of \$0.15 per contract for regular and complex orders in Select Symbols. This rebate applies to all Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker,⁷ Firm Proprietary⁸ / Broker-Dealer,⁹ Professional Customer,¹⁰ and Priority Customer¹¹ orders submitted in the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms that do not trade with their contra order, except when those contracts trade against pre-existing orders and quotes on the Exchange's order books. The Exchange now proposes to adopt the same break-up rebate for regular and complex orders in Non-Select Symbols, and apply the rebate in the same manner to Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker, Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer, Professional Customer, and

⁷ A "Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker" is a market maker as defined in Section 3(a)(38) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, registered in the same options class on another options exchange.

⁸ A "Firm Proprietary" order is an order submitted by a member for its own proprietary account.

⁹ A "Broker-Dealer" order is an order submitted by a member for a broker-dealer account that is not its own proprietary account.

¹⁰ A "Professional Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer and is not a Priority Customer.

¹¹ A "Priority Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer in securities, and does not place more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s), as defined in Nasdaq ISE Options 1, Section 1(a)(37).

Priority Customer orders. The Exchange also proposes technical changes in note 4 of Options 7, Section 3 to revise “orderbooks” to “order books,” and in the Crossing Order Fees and Rebates table in Options 7, Section 4 to revise “Breakup Rebate” to “Break-up Rebate” for greater consistency with the Pricing Schedule.

Taker Fees

The Exchange currently charges all Non-Priority Customers¹² a taker fee of \$0.72 per contract for regular orders in Non-Select Symbols (except NDX and NQX).¹³ The Exchange now proposes to increase this fee to \$0.90 per contract for all Non-Priority Customers.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,¹⁴ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁵ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange’s proposed changes to its Pricing Schedule are reasonable in several respects. As a threshold matter, the Exchange is subject to significant competitive forces in the market for options securities transaction services that constrain

¹² Non-Priority Customers include Market Makers, Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs), Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealers, and Professional Customers.

¹³ NDX and NQX, which are Non-Select Symbols, are presently subject to separate pricing for index options in Section 5 of the Pricing Schedule.

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

its pricing determinations in that market. The fact that this market is competitive has long been recognized by the courts. In NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: “[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is ‘fierce.’ ... As the SEC explained, ‘[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution’; [and] ‘no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted’ because ‘no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers’”¹⁶

The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system “has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies.”¹⁷

Numerous indicia demonstrate the competitive nature of this market. For example, clear substitutes to the Exchange exist in the market for options security transaction services. The Exchange is only one of sixteen options exchanges to which market participants may direct their order flow. Within this environment, market

¹⁶ NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

¹⁷ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) (“Regulation NMS Adopting Release”).

participants can freely and often do shift their order flow among the Exchange and competing venues in response to changes in their respective pricing schedules. As such, the proposal represents a reasonable attempt by the Exchange to increase its liquidity and market share relative to its competitors.

Response Fees

The Exchange believes that the proposed increase to the fees for responses to Crossing Orders is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. With the proposed changes, the response fees will now be uniform at \$0.50 per contract for regular and complex orders in Select Symbols, and at \$1.10 per contract for regular and complex orders in Non-Select Symbols, in both cases across all Crossing Orders and all market participant types. While the response fees are increasing under this proposal, the proposed fees are still within the range of rates charged for similar auction mechanisms at other options exchanges.¹⁸

Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate

The Exchange believes that the proposed Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols are reasonable because these incentives will encourage use of the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rebates will encourage increased originating regular and

¹⁸ See Nasdaq MRX (“MRX”) Pricing Schedule, Options 7, Section 3, Table 2, and Section 5.E, which set forth comparable rates for responses to Crossing Orders on MRX. For example, MRX charges all market participants a \$0.50 per contract fee for responses to Crossing Orders in Penny Symbols and a \$1.10 per contract fee for responses to Crossing Orders in Non-Penny Symbols. See also Cboe EDGX Options (“EDGX”) Fee Schedule, “Automated Improvement Mechanism (“AIM”) and Solicitation Auction Mechanism (“SAM”) Pricing,” which charges all market participants a fee of \$0.50 (Penny Pilot Securities) and \$1.05 (Non-Penny Pilot Securities) for AIM and SAM responses.

complex Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker, Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer, Professional Customer, and Priority Customer order flow to the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms, thereby potentially increasing the initiation of and volume executed through such auctions. Additional auction order flow provides market participants with additional trading opportunities at potentially improved prices. The Exchange further believes that the proposed Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols are set at reasonable rates because they are aligned with the break-up rebates currently provided for Select Symbols, as discussed above.

The Exchange believes that the proposed Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols are equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed rebates will apply equally to all non-Market Maker originating orders submitted to the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms that do not trade with their contra orders (except when those originating contracts trade against pre-existing orders and quotes on the Exchange's order books). While Market Makers will not receive the Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols, the Exchange believes that the application of the rebate is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because Market Makers are not eligible for Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates in Select Symbols today. In addition, the Exchange currently offers Market Makers other rebate programs that do not apply to non-Market Makers, such as the Market Maker Plus Program.

Taker Fees

The Exchange believes that the proposed increase to the Non-Select Symbol taker fees is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. With the proposed changes,

the taker fees will uniformly increase to \$0.90 per contract for all Non-Priority Customers. The Exchange notes that Priority Customers will continue to be assessed no taker fee for Non-Select Symbols under this proposal. While the taker fees are increasing for Non-Priority Customers, the proposed fees are within the range of taker fees at another options exchange.¹⁹

The Exchange believes that it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to continue charging Priority Customers no taker fees in Non-Select Symbols as the Exchange has historically offered lower execution fees or rebates to those market participants. Furthermore, Priority Customer order flow enhances liquidity on the Exchange for the benefit of all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which in turn attracts Market Makers and other market participants that may trade with this order flow.

4. 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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. In terms of intra-market competition, the Exchange does not believe that its proposal will place any category of market participant at a competitive disadvantage. The proposed response fees for Crossing Orders will be consistent across all market participants, as discussed above. In addition, the Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates proposed for Non-Select Symbols will be applied to market participants in the

¹⁹ See Cboe C2 Options ("C2") Fees Schedule, "Transaction Fees," which charges the following fees in Non-Penny Classes for orders that remove liquidity: \$0.85 for Public Customer orders, \$0.90 for C2 Market Maker orders, and \$0.93 for Non-Customer, Non-Market Maker orders (Professional Customer, Firm, Broker/Dealer, non-C2 Market Maker, JBO, etc.).

same manner as the Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates are applied today for Select Symbols. Lastly, the Non-Select Symbol taker fees will be increased uniformly across all Non-Priority Customers while Priority Customers will continue to be charged no taker fee.

In terms of inter-market competition, 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 to remain competitive with other exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. In this instance, while the Exchange is increasing the response fees and taker fees in the manner discussed above, the Exchange does not believe this will cause an undue burden on competition as the increased fees are still within the range of similar fees charged by other options exchanges.

In sum, if the changes proposed herein are unattractive to market participants, it is likely that the Exchange will lose market share as a result. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes will impair the ability of members or competing order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,²⁰ the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Not applicable.

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

5. Text of the proposed rule change.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. _____ ; File No. SR-ISE-2020-26)

July __, 2020

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Exchange's Pricing Schedule at Options 7

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹, and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on July 1, 2020, Nasdaq ISE, LLC ("ISE" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "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 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 amend the Exchange's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, as described further below.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/ise/rules>, 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 Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

received on the proposed rule change. The text of these 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 aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend the Exchange's Pricing Schedule at Options 7. Each change is described below.

Response Fees

Today, for regular orders in Non-Select Symbols,³ the Exchange charges all market participants a fee for Responses to Crossing Orders⁴ (except PIM orders) that is \$0.50 per contract. For complex orders in Non-Select Symbols, this Response fee is \$0.91 per contract for Market Makers⁵ and \$0.96 per contract for all other market participants. In addition, for regular orders in Select Symbols⁶ and Non-Select Symbols, the Exchange currently charges all market participants a fee for Responses to PIM orders that is \$0.35 per contract. For complex orders in both Select and Non-Select Symbols, the PIM Response fee is likewise \$0.35 per contract for all market participants.

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⁶ "Select Symbols" are options overlying all symbols listed on the Nasdaq ISE that are in the Penny Interval Program.

The Exchange now proposes to increase the Response fees described above. Specifically, the fees for Responses to Crossing Orders (except PIM orders) in Non-Select Symbols for both regular and complex orders will increase to \$1.10 per contract for all market participants. In addition, the fees for Responses to PIM orders in Select Symbols for regular and complex orders will increase to \$0.50 per contract for all market participants. Lastly, the fees for Responses to PIM orders in Non-Select Symbols for regular and complex orders will increase to \$1.10 per contract for all market participants.

Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate

Currently, the Exchange provides a Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebate of \$0.15 per contract for regular and complex orders in Select Symbols. This rebate applies to all Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker,⁷ Firm Proprietary⁸ / Broker-Dealer,⁹ Professional Customer,¹⁰ and Priority Customer¹¹ orders submitted in the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms that do not trade with their contra order, except when those contracts trade against pre-existing orders and quotes on the Exchange's order books.

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⁸ A "Firm Proprietary" order is an order submitted by a member for its own proprietary account.

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¹⁰ A "Professional Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer and is not a Priority Customer.

¹¹ A "Priority Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer in securities, and does not place more than 390 orders in listed options per day on average during a calendar month for its own beneficial account(s), as defined in Nasdaq ISE Options 1, Section 1(a)(37).

The Exchange now proposes to adopt the same break-up rebate for regular and complex orders in Non-Select Symbols, and apply the rebate in the same manner to Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker, Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer, Professional Customer, and Priority Customer orders. The Exchange also proposes technical changes in note 4 of Options 7, Section 3 to revise “orderbooks” to “order books,” and in the Crossing Order Fees and Rebates table in Options 7, Section 4 to revise “Breakup Rebate” to “Break-up Rebate” for greater consistency with the Pricing Schedule.

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2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,¹⁴ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁵ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

¹² Non-Priority Customers include Market Makers, Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs), Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealers, and Professional Customers.

¹³ NDX and NQX, which are Non-Select Symbols, are presently subject to separate pricing for index options in Section 5 of the Pricing Schedule.

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

The Exchange's proposed changes to its Pricing Schedule are reasonable in several respects. As a threshold matter, the Exchange is subject to significant competitive forces in the market for options securities transaction services that constrain its pricing determinations in that market. The fact that this market is competitive has long been recognized by the courts. In NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: “[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is ‘fierce.’ ... As the SEC explained, ‘[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution’; [and] ‘no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted’ because ‘no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers’”¹⁶

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example, clear substitutes to the Exchange exist in the market for options security transaction services. The Exchange is only one of sixteen options exchanges to which market participants may direct their order flow. Within this environment, market participants can freely and often do shift their order flow among the Exchange and competing venues in response to changes in their respective pricing schedules. As such, the proposal represents a reasonable attempt by the Exchange to increase its liquidity and market share relative to its competitors.

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The Exchange believes that the proposed increase to the fees for responses to Crossing Orders is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. With the proposed changes, the response fees will now be uniform at \$0.50 per contract for regular and complex orders in Select Symbols, and at \$1.10 per contract for regular and complex orders in Non-Select Symbols, in both cases across all Crossing Orders and all market participant types. While the response fees are increasing under this proposal, the proposed fees are still within the range of rates charged for similar auction mechanisms at other options exchanges.¹⁸

Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate

¹⁸ See Nasdaq MRX (“MRX”) Pricing Schedule, Options 7, Section 3, Table 2, and Section 5.E, which set forth comparable rates for responses to Crossing Orders on MRX. For example, MRX charges all market participants a \$0.50 per contract fee for responses to Crossing Orders in Penny Symbols and a \$1.10 per contract fee for responses to Crossing Orders in Non-Penny Symbols. See also Cboe EDGX Options (“EDGX”) Fee Schedule, “Automated Improvement Mechanism (“AIM”) and Solicitation Auction Mechanism (“SAM”) Pricing,” which charges all market participants a fee of \$0.50 (Penny Pilot Securities) and \$1.05 (Non-Penny Pilot Securities) for AIM and SAM responses.

The Exchange believes that the proposed Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols are reasonable because these incentives will encourage use of the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rebates will encourage increased originating regular and complex Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker, Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer, Professional Customer, and Priority Customer order flow to the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms, thereby potentially increasing the initiation of and volume executed through such auctions. Additional auction order flow provides market participants with additional trading opportunities at potentially improved prices. The Exchange further believes that the proposed Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols are set at reasonable rates because they are aligned with the break-up rebates currently provided for Select Symbols, as discussed above.

The Exchange believes that the proposed Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols are equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed rebates will apply equally to all non-Market Maker originating orders submitted to the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms that do not trade with their contra orders (except when those originating contracts trade against pre-existing orders and quotes on the Exchange's order books). While Market Makers will not receive the Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates for Non-Select Symbols, the Exchange believes that the application of the rebate is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because Market Makers are not eligible for Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates in Select Symbols today. In addition, the Exchange currently offers Market Makers other

rebate programs that do not apply to non-Market Makers, such as the Market Maker Plus Program.

Taker Fees

The Exchange believes that the proposed increase to the Non-Select Symbol taker fees is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. With the proposed changes, the taker fees will uniformly increase to \$0.90 per contract for all Non-Priority Customers. The Exchange notes that Priority Customers will continue to be assessed no taker fee for Non-Select Symbols under this proposal. While the taker fees are increasing for Non-Priority Customers, the proposed fees are within the range of taker fees at another options exchange.¹⁹

The Exchange believes that it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to continue charging Priority Customers no taker fees in Non-Select Symbols as the Exchange has historically offered lower execution fees or rebates to those market participants. Furthermore, Priority Customer order flow enhances liquidity on the Exchange for the benefit of all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which in turn attracts Market Makers and other market participants that may trade with this order flow.

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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the

¹⁹ See Cboe C2 Options ("C2") Fees Schedule, "Transaction Fees," which charges the following fees in Non-Penny Classes for orders that remove liquidity: \$0.85 for Public Customer orders, \$0.90 for C2 Market Maker orders, and \$0.93 for Non-Customer, Non-Market Maker orders (Professional Customer, Firm, Broker/Dealer, non-C2 Market Maker, JBO, etc.).

Act. In terms of intra-market competition, the Exchange does not believe that its proposal will place any category of market participant at a competitive disadvantage. The proposed response fees for Crossing Orders will be consistent across all market participants, as discussed above. In addition, the Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates proposed for Non-Select Symbols will be applied to market participants in the same manner as the Facilitation and Solicitation break-up rebates are applied today for Select Symbols. Lastly, the Non-Select Symbol taker fees will be increased uniformly across all Non-Priority Customers while Priority Customers will continue to be charged no taker fee.

In terms of inter-market competition, 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 to remain competitive with other exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. In this instance, while the Exchange is increasing the response fees and taker fees in the manner discussed above, the Exchange does not believe this will cause an undue burden on competition as the increased fees are still within the range of similar fees charged by other options exchanges.

In sum, if the changes proposed herein are unattractive to market participants, it is likely that the Exchange will lose market share as a result. Accordingly, the Exchange

does not believe that the proposed changes will impair the ability of members or competing order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.²⁰ 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: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule 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

(<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-ISE-2020-26 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-ISE-2020-26. 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 Web site (<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 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-ISE-2020-26 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.²¹

J. Matthew DeLesDernier
Assistant Secretary

²¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is underlined>.

Nasdaq ISE Rules

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Options 7 Pricing Schedule

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Section 3. Regular Order Fees and Rebates

Select Symbols

Market Participant	Maker Rebate / Fee⁽¹⁷⁾	Taker Fee⁽¹⁷⁾	Fee for Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders^{(1) (2)}	Fee for PIM Orders^{(1) (2) (13)}	Fee for Responses to Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders	Fee for Responses to PIM Orders	Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate⁽⁴⁾
Market Maker ⁽⁸⁾	\$0.11 ^{(5) (10) (11)}	\$0.45	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.[3]50	N/A
Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM)	\$0.11 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$0.46	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.[3]50	(\$0.15)
Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer	\$0.11 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$0.46	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.[3]50	(\$0.15)
Professional Customer	\$0.11 ⁽¹¹⁾	\$0.46	\$0.20 ⁽¹⁶⁾	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.[3]50	(\$0.15)
Priority	\$0.00	\$0.41	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.[3]50	(\$0.15)

Customer

Non-Select Symbols (Excluding Index Options) ⁽⁷⁾

Market Participant	Maker Rebate / Fee⁽¹⁷⁾	Taker Fee⁽¹⁷⁾	Fee for Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders^{(1) (2)}	Fee for PIM Orders^{(1) (2) (13)}	Fee for Responses to Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders	Fee for Responses to PIM Orders	<u>Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate⁽⁴⁾</u>
Market Maker ⁽⁸⁾	\$0.70 ⁽⁵⁾	\$0. <u>[72]90</u>	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$ <u>[0.50]1.10</u>	\$ <u>[0.35]1.10</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM) Firm	\$0.70	\$0. <u>[72]90</u>	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$ <u>[0.50]1.10</u>	\$ <u>[0.35]1.10</u>	<u>(\$0.15)</u>
Proprietary / Broker-Dealer	\$0.70	\$0. <u>[72]90</u>	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$ <u>[0.50]1.10</u>	\$ <u>[0.35]1.10</u>	<u>(\$0.15)</u>
Professional Customer	\$0.70	\$0. <u>[72]90</u>	\$0.20 ⁽¹⁶⁾	\$0.10	\$ <u>[0.50]1.10</u>	\$ <u>[0.35]1.10</u>	<u>(\$0.15)</u>
Priority Customer	<u>(\$0.86)^{(15) (18)}</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$ <u>[0.50]1.10</u>	\$ <u>[0.35]1.10</u>	<u>(\$0.15)</u>

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4. Rebate provided for contracts that are submitted to the Facilitation and Solicited Order Mechanisms that do not trade with their contra order except when those contracts trade against pre-existing orders and quotes on the Exchange's order books. The fee for Crossing Orders is applied to any contracts for which a rebate is provided.

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Section 4. Complex Order Fees and Rebates^{(5) (12) (15)}

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Crossing Order Fees and Rebates

Market Participant	Fee for Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders⁽⁶⁾⁽¹⁰⁾ (11)	Fee for PIM Orders⁽⁶⁾⁽⁹⁾ (11)	Fee for Responses to Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders for Select Symbols	Fee for Responses to Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders for non-Select Symbols	Fee for Responses to PIM Orders for <u>Select Symbols</u>	<u>Fee for Responses to PIM Orders for Non-Select Symbols</u>	Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate for Select Symbols⁽²⁾	<u>Facilitation and Solicitation Break-up Rebate for Non-Select Symbols⁽²⁾</u>
Market Maker	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	[\$0.91]1.10	\$0.[3]50	<u>\$1.10</u>	N/A	<u>N/A</u>
Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM)	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	[\$0.96]1.10	\$0.[3]50	<u>\$1.10</u>	(\$0.15)	<u>(\$0.15)</u>
Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer	\$0.20	\$0.10	\$0.50	[\$0.96]1.10	\$0.[3]50	<u>\$1.10</u>	(\$0.15)	<u>(\$0.15)</u>
Professional Customer	\$0.20 ⁽¹⁴⁾	\$0.10	\$0.50	[\$0.96]1.10	\$0.[3]50	<u>\$1.10</u>	(\$0.15)	<u>(\$0.15)</u>

Priority								
Customer	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.50	[\$0.96] <u>1.10</u>	\$0. <u>[3]50</u>	<u>\$1.10</u>	(\$0.15)	<u>(\$0.15)</u>

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