Page 1 of * <mark>21</mark>	SE	ECURITIES AND EXCHA WASHINGTON, Form 191	D.C. 20549		File No. * SR 2024 - * 38  Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)			
Filing by Nasd	aq ISE, LLC							
Pursuant to Rul	e 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange	e Act of 1934						
Initial *  ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(	Section 19(b)(	3)(A) * Section 19(b)(3)(B) *			
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		Rule  19b-4(f)(1)  19b-4(f)(2)  19b-4(f)(3)	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)			
Notice of pro	posed change pursuant to the Paymer (e)(1) *	nt, Clearing, and Settlement Section 806(e)(2) *	Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Securities Exchange Section 3C(b)(2) *	o Submission pursuant to the Act of 1934			
Exhibit 2 Ser	nt As Paper Document	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper	Document					
Description  Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  Amend Options 7, Section 3								
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 *	Angela	Last Name * Dun	ın					
Title *	Principal Associate General Counse	el						
E-mail *	angela.dunn@nasdaq.com							
Telephone *	(215) 496-5692	Fax			]			
has duly cat Date By	the requirements of the Securities Excused this filing to be signed on its beha  08/09/2024  John Zecca  (Name *)  the signature block at right will initiate digitally sign	If by the undersigned thereu	ınto duly authoriz	(Title *)				
	ignature is as legally binding as a physical signatur is form cannot be changed.	e, and	The state of the s	15:45:16 -04'00'				

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

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

Form 19b-4 Information *							
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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

SR-ISE-2024-38 Exhibit 1.docx

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 Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies \*

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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 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

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

# Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

**Exhibit Sent As Paper Document** 

# Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

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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
SR-ISE-2024-38 Exhibit 5.docx

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.

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 3 of 21

## 1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) Nasdaq ISE, LLC ("ISE" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to amend the Exchange's Pricing Schedule at Options 7.<sup>3</sup>

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

- (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"). 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:

Angela Saccomandi Dunn Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 215-496-5692

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

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

On July 31, 2024, ISE filed SR-ISE-2024-37 and designated it effective on August 1, 2024. On August 9, 2024, the Exchange withdrew SR-ISE-2024-37 and filed this rule change.

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 4 of 21

3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### a. <u>Purpose</u>

ISE proposes to amend the Exchange's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, Regular Order Fees and Rebates, to increase the Priority Customer<sup>4</sup> Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract.

Today, the Exchange assesses a Select Symbol Maker Fee of \$0.18 per contract in regular orders to all Non-Priority Customers.<sup>5</sup> Priority Customers are not assessed a Select Symbol Maker Fee in regular orders. Additionally, today, ISE assesses Market Makers<sup>6</sup> a \$0.45 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders. Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs),<sup>7</sup> Firm Proprietary<sup>8</sup>/Broker Dealers,<sup>9</sup> and Professional Customers<sup>10</sup> are assessed a \$0.46 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders. Priority Customers are assessed a \$0.37 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders.

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). Unless otherwise noted, when used in this Pricing Schedule the term "Priority Customer" includes "Retail" as defined below. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Non-Priority Customers" include Market Makers, Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs), Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealers, and Professional Customers. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

The term "Market Makers" refers to "Competitive Market Makers" and "Primary Market Makers" collectively. See Options 1, Section 1(a)(21).

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. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

A "Firm Proprietary" order is an order submitted by a member for its own proprietary account. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

A "Broker-Dealer" order is an order submitted by a member for a broker-dealer account that is not its own proprietary account. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1(c).

A "Professional Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer and is not a Priority Customer. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 5 of 21

At this time, the Exchange proposes to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract in regular orders. While the Exchange is increasing the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee, it will remain the lowest Select Symbol Taker Fee assessed by ISE as compared to Select Symbol Taker Fees assessed to other market participants.

## b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, <sup>11</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act, <sup>12</sup> 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 its pricing determinations in that market. The fact that this market is competitive has long been recognized by the courts. In <a href="NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange">NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange</a>
<a href="Commission">Commission</a>, 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</a>

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b).

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

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 6 of 21

exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers'...."

13

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." <sup>14</sup>

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 seventeen 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.

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract for regular orders is reasonable because its taker

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).

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

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 7 of 21

fees remain competitive and lower than other options exchanges. <sup>15</sup> Further, while the Taker Fee will be higher for Priority Customers, the Exchange believes that market participants will continue to be incentivized to send Priority Customer order flow to ISE because it will remain the lowest Select Symbol Taker Fee assessed by ISE as compared to Select Symbol Taker Fees assessed to other market participants. <sup>16</sup>

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract for regular orders is equitable and not discriminatory because Priority Customers would continue to be assessed the lowest Select Symbol Taker Fee on ISE among market participants. Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities which attracts market makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants (particularly in response to pricing) in turn facilitates tighter spreads which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. Attracting more liquidity from Priority Customers will benefit all market participants that trade on the ISE.

For example, Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. ("C2") assesses Public Customers a \$0.43 per contract fee for removing liquidity in Penny Classes. See C2 Fee Schedule at:

<a href="https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/ctwo">https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/ctwo</a>. In addition, MIAX Emerald, LLC ("MIAX Emerald") assesses Priority Customers a \$0.50 per contract taker fee in Penny Classes. See MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule at:

<a href="https://www.miaxglobal.com/sites/default/files/fee\_schedule-files/MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule 08052024.pdf">https://www.miaxglobal.com/sites/default/files/fee\_schedule-files/MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule 08052024.pdf</a>.

Today, ISE assesses Market Makers a \$0.45 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee. ISE assesses Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs), Firm Proprietary/Broker Dealers, and Professional Customers a \$.46 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders.

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 8 of 21

# 4. <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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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 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.

In terms of intra-market competition, the Exchange does not believe that this proposal will place any category of market participant at a competitive disadvantage. The Exchange's proposal to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract in regular orders does not impose an undue burden on competition because Priority Customers would continue to be assessed the lowest Select Symbol Taker Fee on ISE among market participants. Priority Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities which attracts

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 9 of 21

market makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants (particularly in response to pricing) in turn facilitates tighter spreads which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. Attracting more liquidity from Priority Customers will benefit all market participants that trade on the ISE.

- 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.
- 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, <sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 10 of 21

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

Not applicable.

9. <u>Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act</u>
Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

# 11. Exhibits

- 1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.
- 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 11 of 21

**EXHIBIT 1** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-ISE-2024-38)

August , 2024

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend Options 7, Section 3

Pursuant to 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 August 9, 2024, 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend the Exchange's Pricing Schedule at Options 7.<sup>3</sup>

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

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

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

On July 31, 2024, ISE filed SR-ISE-2024-37 and designated it effective on August 1, 2024. On August 9, 2024, the Exchange withdrew SR-ISE-2024-37 and filed this rule change.

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 12 of 21

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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

## 1. <u>Purpose</u>

ISE proposes to amend the Exchange's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 3, Regular Order Fees and Rebates, to increase the Priority Customer<sup>4</sup> Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract.

Today, the Exchange assesses a Select Symbol Maker Fee of \$0.18 per contract in regular orders to all Non-Priority Customers.<sup>5</sup> Priority Customers are not assessed a Select Symbol Maker Fee in regular orders. Additionally, today, ISE assesses Market Makers<sup>6</sup> a \$0.45 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders. Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs), Firm Proprietary 8/Broker Dealers, 9 and Professional

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). Unless otherwise noted, when used in this Pricing Schedule the term "Priority Customer" includes "Retail" as defined below. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Non-Priority Customers" include Market Makers, Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs), Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealers, and Professional Customers. <u>See</u> Options 7, Section 1(c).

The term "Market Makers" refers to "Competitive Market Makers" and "Primary Market Makers" collectively. See Options 1, Section 1(a)(21).

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. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

A "Firm Proprietary" order is an order submitted by a member for its own proprietary account. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

A "Broker-Dealer" order is an order submitted by a member for a broker-dealer account that is not its own proprietary account. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 13 of 21

Customers<sup>10</sup> are assessed a \$0.46 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders. Priority Customers are assessed a \$0.37 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders.

At this time, the Exchange proposes to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract in regular orders. While the Exchange is increasing the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee, it will remain the lowest Select Symbol Taker Fee assessed by ISE as compared to Select Symbol Taker Fees assessed to other market participants.

### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, <sup>11</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act, <sup>12</sup> 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 its pricing determinations in that market. The fact that this market is competitive has long been recognized by the courts. In <a href="NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange">NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange</a>
<a href="Commission">Commission</a>, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: "[n]o one disputes that competition for

A "Professional Customer" is a person or entity that is not a broker/dealer and is not a Priority Customer. See Options 7, Section 1(c).

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b).

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

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 14 of 21

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'...."

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." <sup>14</sup>

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 seventeen 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

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)).

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

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 15 of 21

market share relative to its competitors.

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract for regular orders is reasonable because its taker fees remain competitive and lower than other options exchanges. Further, while the Taker Fee will be higher for Priority Customers, the Exchange believes that market participants will continue to be incentivized to send Priority Customer order flow to ISE because it will remain the lowest Select Symbol Taker Fee assessed by ISE as compared to Select Symbol Taker Fees assessed to other market participants. <sup>16</sup>

The Exchange's proposal to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker

Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract for regular orders is equitable and not

discriminatory because Priority Customers would continue to be assessed the lowest

Select Symbol Taker Fee on ISE among market participants. Priority Customer liquidity

benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities which attracts

market makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants (particularly in

response to pricing) in turn facilitates tighter spreads which may cause an additional

corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. Attracting more

liquidity from Priority Customers will benefit all market participants that trade on the

ISE.

For example, Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. ("C2") assesses Public Customers a \$0.43 per contract fee for removing liquidity in Penny Classes. See C2 Fee Schedule at:

https://www.cboe.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/ctwo. In addition, MIAX Emerald, LLC ("MIAX Emerald") assesses Priority Customers a \$0.50 per contract taker fee in Penny Classes. See MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule at:

https://www.miaxglobal.com/sites/default/files/fee\_schedule-files/MIAX Emerald Fee Schedule 08052024.pdf.

Today, ISE assesses Market Makers a \$0.45 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee. ISE assesses Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Makers (FarMMs), Firm Proprietary/Broker Dealers, and Professional Customers a \$.46 per contract Select Symbol Taker Fee in regular orders.

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 16 of 21

## 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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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 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.

In terms of intra-market competition, the Exchange does not believe that this proposal will place any category of market participant at a competitive disadvantage. The Exchange's proposal to increase the Priority Customer Select Symbol Taker Fee from \$0.37 to \$0.39 per contract in regular orders does not impose an undue burden on competition because Priority Customers would continue to be assessed the lowest Select Symbol Taker Fee on ISE among market participants. Priority Customer liquidity

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 17 of 21

benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities which attracts market makers. An increase in the activity of these market participants (particularly in response to pricing) in turn facilitates tighter spreads which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants. Attracting more liquidity from Priority Customers will benefit all market participants that trade on the ISE.

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 either solicited or received.

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)(ii) of the Act. <sup>17</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: (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:

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 18 of 21

#### **Electronic Comments:**

Use the Commission's internet comment form
 (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or

• Send an email to <a href="mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov">rule-comments@sec.gov</a>. Please include file number SR-ISE-2024-38 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-2024-38. 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

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 19 of 21

subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-ISE-2024-38 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.  $^{18}$ 

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 20 of 21

## **EXHIBIT 5**

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

Nasdaq ISE, LLC Rules

\* \* \* \* \*

**Options Rules** 

\* \* \* \* \*

**Options 7 Pricing Schedule** 

\* \* \* \* \*

**Section 3. Regular Order Fees and Rebates** 

**Select Symbols** 

Market Participant	Maker Rebate / Fee <sup>(17)</sup>	Taker Fee <sup>(17)</sup>	Fee for Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders <sup>(2)</sup>	Fee for PIM Orders <sup>(2)</sup> (13)	Fee for Responses to Crossing Orders Except PIM Orders	Fee for Responses to PIM Orders	-	PIM Break-up Rebate
Market Maker <sup>(8)</sup>	\$0.18 <sup>(5)</sup> (10) (11)	\$0.45	\$0.17	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	N/A	N/A
Non-Nasdaq ISE Market Maker (FarMM)	\$0.18 <sup>(11)</sup>	\$0.46	\$0.17	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.20)	N/A

SR-ISE-2024-38 Page 21 of 21

Firm Proprietary / Broker-Dealer	\$0.18 <sup>(11)</sup>	\$0.46	\$0.17	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.20)	N/A
Professional Customer	\$0.18 <sup>(11)</sup>	\$0.46	\$0.17 <sup>(16)</sup>	\$0.10	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.20)	N/A
Priority Customer	\$0.00	\$0.[37] <u>39</u>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.50	\$0.50	(\$0.20)	$(\$0.00)^{19}$
				* * * * *				