Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB Number: 3235-0045
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Page 1 o	f * 20		EXCHANGE C TON, D.C. 20 orm 19b-4	549	File No.* SI	R - 2013 - * 021 nendments *)
Filing by NASDAQ Stock Market						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)	Section (2) * Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) * Rule	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f 19b-4(f 19b-4(f	f)(2) 19b-4(f)(5)	
	of proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2)	ng, and Settlem	ent Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap to the Securities Exchar Section 3C(b)(2)	
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent 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 *). A Proposed Rule Change to delay the operative date of a rule change to NASDAQ Rule 4121						
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 N	ame * Manny		Last Name *	Alicandro		
Title *						
E-mail	manny.alicandro@nasdaqomx.com					
Teleph	one * (212) 401-8982	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 01/28/2013 Executive Vice President and General Counsel						
Ву	Edward S. Knight					
(Name *) 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. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * 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 Add Remove View 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** The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, 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 or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies 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, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire 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 Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View 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** 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 Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** 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) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities

Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² the NASDAQ Stock

Market LLC ("NASDAQ" or the "Exchange") proposes to delay the operative

date of a rule change to NASDAQ Rule 4121, which provides for methodology

for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market

volatility, from the date of February 4, 2013, until April 8, 2013.

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

A copy of this filing is available on the Exchange's website at http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com/Filings, at NASDAQ's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

- (b) The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any direct effect, or any significant indirect effect, on any other Exchange rule in effect at the time of this filing.
- (c) Not applicable.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of NASDAQ pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of NASDAQ on July 10, 2012. NASDAQ staff will advise the Board of Directors of NASDAQ of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by NASDAQ is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions regarding this rule filing may be directed to Manny Alicandro, Associate General Counsel, NASDAQ, at (212) 401-8982 (telephone) or (212) 213-5435 (fax).

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

(a) <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4121, which provides the methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility, to delay the operative date of the pilot by which such Rule operates from the current scheduled date of February 4, 2013, until April 8, 2013, to coincide with the initial date of operations of the Regulation NMS Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility ("LULD Plan").³ As proposed, the pilot period will begin and end at the same time as the pilot period

The Exchange adopted the proposed changes to the market-wide circuit breakers on a pilot basis for a period that corresponds to the pilot period for the LULD Plan so that the impact of the two proposals can be reviewed together. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67090 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33531 (June 6, 2012) (SR-NASDAQ-2011-131). The Exchange anticipates that the initial date of LULD Plan operations will be changed to April 8, 2013. The proposal would delay the operative date of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot to April 8, 2013 in order for the implementation date for the market-wide circuit breakers pilot would remain the same date as for the LULD Plan.

for the LULD Plan. The current Rule 4121 would remain in effect until April 8, 2013. If the pilot is not either extended or approved permanently at the end of the pilot period, the current version of Rule 4121 would be in effect.

Current Rule 4121

The Exchange amended Rule 4121 on June 6, 2012.⁴ The changes to Rule 4121 are effective, but not operative until February 4, 2013. The current standard, set forth in the rules of other exchanges,⁵ provides for Level 1, 2, and 3 declines and specified trading halts following such declines. The values of Levels 1, 2 and 3 are calculated at the beginning of each calendar quarter, using 10%, 20% and 30%, respectively, of the average closing value of the Dow Jones Industrial Average ("DJIA") for the month prior to the beginning of the quarter. Each percentage calculation is rounded to the nearest fifty points to create the Levels' trigger points. The values then remain in effect until the next quarterly calculation, notwithstanding whether the DJIA has moved and a Level 1, 2, or 3 decline is no longer equal to an actual 10%, 20%, or 30% decline in the most recent closing value of the DJIA.

Once a market-wide circuit breaker is in effect, trading in all stocks halt for the time periods specified below:

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67090 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33531 (June 6, 2012) (SR-NASDAQ-2011-131).

The rule was last amended in 1998, when declines based on specified point drops in the DJIA were replaced with the current methodology of using a percentage decline that is recalculated quarterly. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 39846 (April 9, 1998), 63 FR 18477 (April 15, 1998) (SR-NYSE-98-06, SR-Amex-98-09, SR-BSE-98-06, SR-CHX-98-08, SR-NASD-98-27, and SR-Phlx-98-15).

Level 1 Halt

anytime before 2:00 p.m. – one hour;

at or after 2:00 p.m. but before 2:30 p.m. – 30 minutes;

at or after 2:30 p.m. – trading shall continue, unless there is a Level 2 Halt.

Level 2 Halt

anytime before 1:00 p.m. – two hours;

at or after 1:00 p.m. but before 2:00 p.m. – one hour;

at or after 2:00 p.m. – trading shall halt and not resume for the rest of the day.

Level 3 Halt

at any time – trading shall halt and not resume for the rest of the day.

Unless stocks are halted for the remainder of the trading day, price indications are disseminated during a Rule 80B trading halt for stocks that comprise the DJIA.

Amended Rule 4121

The Exchange amended Rule 4121 to revise the current methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility ("market-wide circuit breakers"). The Exchange, other equities, options, and futures markets, and FINRA amended the market-wide circuit breakers to take into consideration the recommendations of the Joint CFTC-SEC Advisory Committee on Emerging Regulatory Issues, and to provide for more meaningful measures in today's markets of when to halt trading in all stocks. Accordingly, the Exchange amended Rule 80B as follows: (i) replaced the DJIA with the S&P 500; (ii) replaced the quarterly calendar recalculation of Rule 80B

⁶ See supra note 4.

triggers with daily recalculations; (iii) replaced the 10%, 20%, and 30% market decline percentages with 7%, 13%, and 20% market decline percentages; (iv) modified the length of the trading halts associated with each market decline level; and (v) modified the times when a trading halt may be triggered. The Exchange believes that these amendments update the rule to reflect today's high-speed, highly electronic trading market while still meeting the original purpose of Rule 80B: to ensure that market participants have an opportunity to become aware of and respond to significant price movements.

The Exchange adopted the proposed changes to the market-wide circuit breakers on a pilot basis for a period that corresponds to the pilot period for the LULD Plan so that the impact of the two proposals can be reviewed together. In addition, in order for the markets and the single plan processors responsible for the consolidation of information pursuant to Rule 603(b) of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to make the necessary technological changes to implement both the changes to the market-wide circuit breakers and the proposed LULD Plan, the Exchange established that the implementation date for the proposed rule changes should be the same date that the LULD Plan is implemented. The Exchange anticipates that the initial date of LULD Plan operations will be changed to April 8, 2013. For the same reasons as stated above, the Exchange proposes to delay the operative date of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot to April 8, 2013 in order for the implementation date for the

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market-wide circuit breakers pilot would remain the same date as for the LULD Plan.

(b) <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),⁸ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁹ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

Specifically, this rule proposal supports the objectives of perfecting the mechanism of a free and open market and the national market system because it promotes uniformity across markets concerning when and how to halt trading in all stocks as a result of extraordinary market volatility. Additionally, delaying the operative date of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot until the initial date of operations of the LULD Plan would allow the pilot to begin and end at the same time of the LULD Plan so that the Exchange and the Commission could further assess the impact of the two pilots on the marketplace or whether other initiatives should be adopted in lieu of the pilots, which contributes to the protection of investors and the public interest.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed changes are being made to delay the operation of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot until April 8, 2013 to allow the pilot period to begin and end at the same time as the LULD Plan, which contributes to the protection of investors and the public interest. Other competing equity exchanges are subject to the same methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility and the same requirements specified in the LULD Plan. Thus, the proposed changes will not impose any burden on competition while providing that the market-wide circuit breakers pilot period corresponds to the pilot period for the LULD Plan so that the impact of the two proposals can be reviewed together.

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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
 Not applicable.
- 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposal qualifies for immediate effectiveness upon filing as a "non-controversial" rule change in accordance with Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹¹

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

The Exchange asserts that the proposed rule change (i) will not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, (ii) will not impose any significant burden on competition, and (iii) by its terms, will not become operative for 30 days after the date of this filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. In addition, the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate.

The Exchange believes that this proposal is non-controversial and eligible to become effective immediately because it delays the operation of a market-wide circuit breakers pilot that promotes uniformity across markets regarding the methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility. The proposal will promote the protection of investors and the public interest by allowing the current market-wide circuit breaker Rules in operation to continue uninterrupted until the initial date of LULD Plan operations. In addition, the proposal will not affect competition because other competing equity exchanges are subject to the same methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility. For the foregoing reasons, this rule filing qualifies for immediate effectiveness as a "non-controversial" rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4. The Exchange respectfully requests the Commission to waive the 30-day

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operative delay to allow the current rules to remain in effect without interruption until the initial date of LULD Plan operations for the benefit of the marketplace and the investing public. For a similar reason, the Exchange requests the Commission to waive the pre-filing period.

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.

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

Not applicable.

- 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. Form of Notice of Proposed Rule Change for Publication in the <u>Federal</u> Register.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2013-021)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to delay the operative date of a rule change to NASDAQ Rule 4121

January ___, 2013

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on January 28, 2013, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ" or "Exchange") 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 comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes a rule change to delay the operative date of a rule change to NASDAQ Rule 4121, which provides for methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility, from the date of February 4, 2013, until April 8, 2013. The text of the proposed rule change is available at http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com, at the Exchange's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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 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>

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 4121, which provides the methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility, to delay the operative date of the pilot by which such Rule operates from the current scheduled date of February 4, 2013, until April 8, 2013, to coincide with the initial date of operations of the Regulation NMS Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility ("LULD Plan").³ As proposed, the pilot period will begin and end at the same time as the pilot period for the LULD Plan. The current Rule 4121 would remain in effect until April 8, 2013. If the pilot is not either extended or approved permanently at the end of the pilot period, the current version of Rule 4121 would be in effect.

The Exchange adopted the proposed changes to the market-wide circuit breakers on a pilot basis for a period that corresponds to the pilot period for the LULD Plan so that the impact of the two proposals can be reviewed together. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67090 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33531 (June 6, 2012) (SR-NASDAQ-2011-131). The Exchange anticipates that the initial date of LULD Plan operations will be changed to April 8, 2013. The proposal would delay the operative date of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot to April 8, 2013 in order for the implementation date for the market-wide circuit breakers pilot would remain the same date as for the LULD Plan.

Current Rule 4121

The Exchange amended Rule 4121 on June 6, 2012. The changes to Rule 4121 are effective, but not operative until February 4, 2013. The current standard, set forth in the rules of other exchanges, provides for Level 1, 2, and 3 declines and specified trading halts following such declines. The values of Levels 1, 2 and 3 are calculated at the beginning of each calendar quarter, using 10%, 20% and 30%, respectively, of the average closing value of the Dow Jones Industrial Average ("DJIA") for the month prior to the beginning of the quarter. Each percentage calculation is rounded to the nearest fifty points to create the Levels' trigger points. The values then remain in effect until the next quarterly calculation, notwithstanding whether the DJIA has moved and a Level 1, 2, or 3 decline is no longer equal to an actual 10%, 20%, or 30% decline in the most recent closing value of the DJIA.

Once a market-wide circuit breaker is in effect, trading in all stocks halt for the time periods specified below:

Level 1 Halt

anytime before 2:00 p.m. – one hour;

at or after 2:00 p.m. but before 2:30 p.m. – 30 minutes;

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67090 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33531(June 6, 2012) (SR-NASDAQ-2011-131).

The rule was last amended in 1998, when declines based on specified point drops in the DJIA were replaced with the current methodology of using a percentage decline that is recalculated quarterly. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 39846 (April 9, 1998), 63 FR 18477 (April 15, 1998) (SR-NYSE-98-06, SR-Amex-98-09, SR-BSE-98-06, SR-CHX-98-08, SR-NASD-98-27, and SR-Phlx-98-15).

at or after 2:30 p.m. – trading shall continue, unless there is a Level 2 Halt.

Level 2 Halt

anytime before 1:00 p.m. – two hours;

at or after 1:00 p.m. but before 2:00 p.m. – one hour;

at or after 2:00 p.m. – trading shall halt and not resume for the rest of the day.

Level 3 Halt

at any time – trading shall halt and not resume for the rest of the day.

Unless stocks are halted for the remainder of the trading day, price indications are disseminated during a Rule 80B trading halt for stocks that comprise the DJIA.

Amended Rule 4121

The Exchange amended Rule 4121 to revise the current methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility ("market-wide circuit breakers"). The Exchange, other equities, options, and futures markets, and FINRA amended the market-wide circuit breakers to take into consideration the recommendations of the Joint CFTC-SEC Advisory Committee on Emerging Regulatory Issues, and to provide for more meaningful measures in today's markets of when to halt trading in all stocks. Accordingly, the Exchange amended Rule 80B as follows: (i) replaced the DJIA with the S&P 500; (ii) replaced the quarterly calendar recalculation of Rule 80B triggers with daily recalculations; (iii) replaced the 10%, 20%, and 30% market decline percentages with 7%, 13%, and 20% market decline percentages; (iv) modified the length of the trading halts associated with each market decline level; and (v) modified the times when a trading halt may be triggered. The

⁶ See supra note 4.

Exchange believes that these amendments update the rule to reflect today's high-speed, highly electronic trading market while still meeting the original purpose of Rule 80B: to ensure that market participants have an opportunity to become aware of and respond to significant price movements.

The Exchange adopted the proposed changes to the market-wide circuit breakers on a pilot basis for a period that corresponds to the pilot period for the LULD Plan so that the impact of the two proposals can be reviewed together. In addition, in order for the markets and the single plan processors responsible for the consolidation of information pursuant to Rule 603(b) of Regulation NMS under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to make the necessary technological changes to implement both the changes to the market-wide circuit breakers and the proposed LULD Plan, the Exchange established that the implementation date for the proposed rule changes should be the same date that the LULD Plan is implemented. The Exchange anticipates that the initial date of LULD Plan operations will be changed to April 8, 2013. For the same reasons as stated above, the Exchange proposes to delay the operative date of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot to April 8, 2013 in order for the implementation date for the market-wide circuit breakers pilot would remain the same date as for the LULD Plan.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),⁸ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁹ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and

⁷ Id.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

Specifically, this rule proposal supports the objectives of perfecting the mechanism of a free and open market and the national market system because it promotes uniformity across markets concerning when and how to halt trading in all stocks as a result of extraordinary market volatility. Additionally, delaying the operative date of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot until the initial date of operations of the LULD Plan would allow the pilot to begin and end at the same time of the LULD Plan so that the Exchange and the Commission could further assess the impact of the two pilots on the marketplace or whether other initiatives should be adopted in lieu of the pilots, which contributes to the protection of investors and the public interest..

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 changes are being made to delay the operation of the market-wide circuit breakers pilot until April 8, 2013 to allow the pilot period to begin and end at the same time as the LULD Plan, which contributes to the protection of investors and the public interest. Other competing equity exchanges are subject to the same methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility and the same requirements specified in the LULD Plan. Thus, the proposed changes will not impose any burden on competition while providing that the market-wide circuit breakers pilot period corresponds to the pilot period for the LULD Plan so that the impact of the two proposals can be reviewed together.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

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 Act¹⁰ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b–4 thereunder.¹¹

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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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 Number SR-NASDAQ-2013-021 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-NASDAQ-2013-021. 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 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 offices 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-NASDAQ-2013-021, 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. 12

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).