Filing by: The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

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<tr>
<th>Initial</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
<th>Withdrawal</th>
<th>Section 19(b)(2)</th>
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Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010

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<td>Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).</td>
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<td>Proposal to clarify Rule 4120(c)(9) without changing its substance.</td>
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Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nikolai</td>
<td>Utochkin</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counsel - Listing and Governance</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Nikolai.Utochkin@nasdaq.com">Nikolai.Utochkin@nasdaq.com</a></td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(301) 978-8029</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 08/21/2019

By Edward S. Knight

Global Chief Legal and Policy Officer

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.
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**

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**

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, 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, Transcripts, Other Communications**

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**

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**

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**

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**

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) The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” 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 clarify Rule 4120(c)(9) without changing its substance.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the [Federal Register](https://www.federalregister.gov/) is attached as Exhibit 1. The text of the proposed rule change is set forth below. Proposed new language is underlined; deleted text is in brackets.

* * * * *

**The Nasdaq Stock Market Rules**

* * * * *

**4120. Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts**

(a) – (b) No change.

(c) Procedure for Initiating and Terminating a Trading Halt

(1) – (8) No change.

(9) For purposes of this Rule and Rule 4753, the process for halting and initial pricing of a security that is the subject of an initial public offering shall also be available for the initial pricing of any other security that has not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing, provided that a broker-dealer serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer of the securities being listed is willing to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8) that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering. If more than one broker-dealer is serving in the role of financial advisor, the issuer must designate one to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8).

(10) No change.

* * * * *

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(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 of the Exchange (the “Board”) on September 26, 2018. 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:

Nikolai Utochkin  
Counsel – Listing and Governance  
Nasdaq, Inc.  
(301) 978-8029

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

a. Purpose

Nasdaq proposes to amend Rule 4120(c)(9) to clarify that, if more than one broker-dealer is serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer, in order to use the Nasdaq IPO Cross, as defined below, to initiate trading in securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing, the issuer must designate one financial advisor to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8). ³

In 2014, Nasdaq first adopted rules to allow the use of the Nasdaq IPO Cross to initiate trading in securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing and described the role of financial advisors in that process. At that time, the Exchange added new Rule 4120(c)(9) to set forth the process by which trading commences in such securities. Under that rule, securities of companies that have not previously been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to listing on Nasdaq can be launched for trading using the same crossing mechanism available for IPOs outlined in Rule 4120(c)(8) and Rule 4753 (the “IPO Cross”). Prior to that rule change, securities of companies that were not conducting IPOs were released using the Halt Cross outlined in Rule 4120(c)(7), which differed from the IPO Cross.

The 2014 Rule Change extended the safeguards contained in the IPO Cross to securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing

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5 In 2014, Nasdaq filed SR-NASDAQ-2014-081 modifying the functions that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering and renumbered certain paragraphs of Rule 4120. Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73399 (October 21, 2014), 79 FR 63981 (October 27, 2014) (approving SR-NASDAQ-2014-081). All references in this filing are to the renumbered rules, as currently in effect.

6 The Halt Cross process has a shorter quoting period (five minutes) and provides no ability to extend the quoting period in the event trading interest or volatility in the market appears likely to have a material impact on the security, unless there is an order imbalance as defined in the rule. See the 2014 Rule Change for additional details on the differences between the Halt Cross and the IPO Cross.
and established that a broker-dealer serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer could serve in the same capacity for such securities as the underwriter does for IPOs. Specifically, Rule 4120(c)(9) provides that the IPO Cross process described in Rules 4120 and 4753 is available to securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing where “a broker-dealer serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer of the securities being listed is willing to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8) that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering.”

Rule 4120(c)(8) implies that only one underwriter performs the functions the rule describes. Typically, such functions are performed by the lead underwriter, which is referred to as “the” underwriter in the rule.

Similarly, Nasdaq proposes to clarify that, if more than one broker-dealer is serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer, in order to use the Nasdaq IPO Cross to initiate trading in securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing, the issuer must designate one financial advisor to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8).

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7 Subsequent to the 2014 Rule Change Nasdaq expanded and elaborated the functions that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering. See footnote 6, above. Rule 4120(c)(9) requires a broker-dealer serving in the role of a financial advisor to the issuer of the securities being listed to perform all such functions in order for the issuer to utilize the IPO Cross for the initial pricing of the security.
b. **Statutory Basis**

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of 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 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.

Nasdaq believes that additional clarity that the issuer must designate one financial advisor to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8) will promote fair and orderly markets by eliminating potential confusion and by continuing to protect against volatility in the pricing and initial trading of the unseasoned securities covered by the proposed rule change.

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. The proposed change is designed to more clearly describe the current operation of an existing rule without changing its substance and, therefore, Nasdaq believes that the proposed change will not impose a burden on competition.

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.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)\(^{10}\) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder\(^{11}\) in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

Nasdaq believes that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because the proposal is designed to promote fair and orderly markets by clarifying that the issuer must designate one financial advisor to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8) thus eliminating potential confusion.

Nasdaq further believes that the change does not impose any significant burden on competition because the change does not impact the ability of any market participant or trading venue to compete, but rather is intended to clarify existing rule language and to promote fair and orderly markets in the trading of the securities covered by the rule change.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)\(^{12}\) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that


subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as
designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

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 should be approved or disapproved.

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

Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to clarify Rule 4120(c)(9) without changing its substance.

The text of the proposed rule change is set forth below. Proposed new language is underlined; deleted text is in brackets.

* * * * *

The Nasdaq Stock Market Rules

* * * * *

4120. Limit Up-Limit Down Plan and Trading Halts

(a) – (b) No change.

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(c) Procedure for Initiating and Terminating a Trading Halt

(1) – (8) No change.

(9) For purposes of this Rule and Rule 4753, the process for halting and initial pricing of a security that is the subject of an initial public offering shall also be available for the initial pricing of any other security that has not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing, provided that a broker-dealer serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer of the securities being listed is willing to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8) that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering. If more than one broker-dealer is serving in the role of financial advisor, the issuer must designate one to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8).

(10) No change.

* * * * *

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Website at http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com, 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 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

Nasdaq proposes to amend Rule 4120(c)(9) to clarify that, if more than one broker-dealer is serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer, in order to use the Nasdaq IPO Cross, as defined below, to initiate trading in securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing, the issuer must designate one financial advisor to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8).  

In 2014, Nasdaq first adopted rules to allow the use of the Nasdaq IPO Cross to initiate trading in securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing and described the role of financial advisors in that process. At that time, the Exchange added new Rule 4120(c)(9) to set forth the process by which trading commences in such securities. Under that rule, securities of companies that have not previously been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter

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5 In 2014, Nasdaq filed SR-NASDAQ-2014-081 modifying the functions that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering and renumbered certain paragraphs of Rule 4120. Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73399 (October 21, 2014), 79 FR 63981 (October 27, 2014) (approving SR-NASDAQ-2014-081). All references in this filing are to the renumbered rules, as currently in effect.
market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to listing on Nasdaq can be launched for trading using the same crossing mechanism available for IPOs outlined in Rule 4120(c)(8) and Rule 4753 (the “IPO Cross”). Prior to that rule change, securities of companies that were not conducting IPOs were released using the Halt Cross outlined in Rule 4120(c)(7), which differed from the IPO Cross.6

The 2014 Rule Change extended the safeguards contained in the IPO Cross to securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing and established that a broker-dealer serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer could serve in the same capacity for such securities as the underwriter does for IPOs. Specifically, Rule 4120(c)(9) provides that the IPO Cross process described in Rules 4120 and 4753 is available to securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing where “a broker-dealer serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer of the securities being listed is willing to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8) that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering.”7

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6 The Halt Cross process has a shorter quoting period (five minutes) and provides no ability to extend the quoting period in the event trading interest or volatility in the market appears likely to have a material impact on the security, unless there is an order imbalance as defined in the rule. See the 2014 Rule Change for additional details on the differences between the Halt Cross and the IPO Cross.

7 Subsequent to the 2014 Rule Change Nasdaq expanded and elaborated the functions that are performed by an underwriter with respect to an initial public offering. See footnote 6, above. Rule 4120(c)(9) requires a broker-dealer serving in the role of a financial advisor to the issuer of the securities being listed to perform all such functions in order for the issuer to utilize the IPO Cross for the initial pricing of the security.
Rule 4120(c)(8) implies that only one underwriter performs the functions the rule describes. Typically, such functions are performed by the lead underwriter, which is referred to as “the” underwriter in the rule.

Similarly, Nasdaq proposes to clarify that, if more than one broker-dealer is serving in the role of financial advisor to the issuer, in order to use the Nasdaq IPO Cross to initiate trading in securities that have not been listed on a national securities exchange or traded in the over-the-counter market pursuant to FINRA Form 211 immediately prior to the initial pricing, the issuer must designate one financial advisor to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8).

2. **Statutory Basis**

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed 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.

Nasdaq believes that additional clarity that the issuer must designate one financial advisor to perform the functions under Rule 4120(c)(8) will promote fair and orderly markets by eliminating potential confusion and by continuing to protect against volatility in the pricing and initial trading of the unseasoned securities covered by the proposed rule change.

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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 Act. The proposed change is designed to more clearly describe the current operation of an existing rule without changing its substance and, therefore, Nasdaq believes that the proposed change will not impose a burden on competition.

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

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)(iii) of the Act\textsuperscript{10} and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.\textsuperscript{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


\textsuperscript{11} 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.
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 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](http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml)); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2019-066 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-NASDAQ-2019-066. 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](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-NASDAQ-2019-066 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

Eduardo A. Aleman
Assistant Secretary

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