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OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
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Page 1 of * 19		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2020 - * 092 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)				
Filing by The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) * Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	f)(2)	
	f proposed change pursuant 806(e)(1) *	to the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2) *	ng, and Settlemer	t Act of 2010	Security-Based Swal to the Securities Excl 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 proposal to extend the expiration date of the temporary amendments concerning video conference hearings from December 31, 2020 to April 30, 2021.						
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 Na	me * Olumuyiwa		Last Name * Oc	enivide		
Title * Enforcement Counsel			Last Name Odomyno			
	E-mail * Olumuyiwa.Odeniyide@nasdaq.com					
Telephoi		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 1	2/17/2020	ſ	EVP and Chief Legal Counsel			
<u> </u>	ohn Zecca					
(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. john.zecca@nasdaq.com						

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 Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to Add Remove View 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) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, 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. Add Remove View 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 View Remove 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. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(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 extend the expiration date of the temporary amendments in SR-NASDAQ-2020-076 from December 31, 2020 to April 30, 2021.³ The proposed rule change would not make any changes to the text of the Exchange rules.

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

- (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 November 5, 2020. 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.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

If the Exchange requires temporary relief from the rule requirements identified in this proposal beyond April 30, 2021, the Exchange may submit a separate rule filing to extend the expiration date of the temporary amendments under these rules. The amended Exchange rules will revert back to their original state at the conclusion of the temporary relief period and any extension thereof.

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

Olumuyiwa Odeniyide Enforcement Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 301-590-6852

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

a. <u>Purpose</u>

In response to the COVID-19 global health crisis and the corresponding need to restrict in-person activities, the Exchange filed proposed rule change SR-NASDAQ-2020-076, which allows the Exchange's Office of Hearing Officers ("OHO") and the Exchange Review Council ("ERC") to conduct hearings, on a temporary basis, by video conference, if warranted by the current COVID-19-related public health risks posed by an in-person hearing. The COVID-19 conditions necessitating these temporary amendments persist, with cases rapidly escalating nationwide. Based on its assessment of current COVID-19 conditions, and the lack of certainty as to when COVID-19-related health concerns will subside, the Exchange has determined that there is a continued need for this temporary relief for several months beyond December 31, 2020. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to extend the expiration date of the temporary rule amendments in SR-NASDAQ-2020-076 from December 31, 2020, to April 30, 2021.

On November 5, 2020, the Exchange filed with the Commission a proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness, SR-NASDAQ-2020-076, to temporarily amend Exchange Rules 1015, 9261, 9524 and 9830 to grant OHO and the ERC authority⁴ to

For OHO hearings under Exchange Rules 9261 and 9830, the proposed rule change temporarily grants authority to the Chief or Deputy Chief Hearing Officer to order that a hearing be conducted by video conference. For ERC hearings under

conduct hearings in connection with appeals of Membership Application Program decisions, disciplinary actions, eligibility proceedings and temporary and permanent cease and desist orders by video conference, if warranted by the current COVID-19-related public health risks posed by an in-person hearing (the "November 5 Filing"). The Commission published its notice of filing and immediate effectiveness for the November 5 Filing on November 10, 2020. The temporary amendments, as originally proposed in the November 5 Filing, will expire on December 31, 2020, absent another proposed rule change filing by the Exchange.

The Exchange proposed the temporary amendments allowing for specified OHO and ERC hearings to be conducted by video conference in response to the COVID-19-related public health risks posed in connection with conducting traditional, in-person hearings. As set forth in the November 5 Filing, the Exchange relies on COVID-19 data and the guidance issued by public health authorities to determine whether the current public health risks presented by an in-person hearing may warrant a hearing by video conference. As noted above, the COVID-19-related public health risks necessitating this temporary relief have not yet abated, with COVID-19 cases surging nationwide.

Exchange Rules 1015 and 9524, this temporary authority is granted to the ERC or relevant Subcommittee.

The temporary amendments set forth in the November 5 Filing were subject to a 30- day operative delay and, accordingly, became operative on December 6, 2020.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90390 (November 10, 2020), 85 FR 73302 (November 17, 2020) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of File No. SR-NASDAQ-2020-076).

As noted in the November 5 Filing, the temporary proposed rule change grants discretion to OHO and the ERC to order a video conference hearing. In deciding whether to schedule a hearing by video conference, OHO and the ERC may consider a variety of other factors in addition to COVID-19 trends.

Based on its assessment of current COVID-19 conditions, including the recent escalation in COVID-19 cases nationwide, the Exchange does not believe the COVID-19- related health concerns necessitating this relief will subside by December 31, 2020, and has determined that there will be a continued need for this temporary relief for several months beyond December 31, 2020. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to extend the expiration date of the temporary rule amendments in the November 5 Filing from December 31, 2020, to April 30, 2021. The extension of these temporary amendments allowing for specified OHO and ERC hearings to proceed by video conference will allow the Exchange's critical adjudicatory functions to continue to operate effectively in these extraordinary circumstances – enabling the Exchange to fulfill its statutory obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets – while also protecting the health and safety of hearing participants.

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, so the Exchange can implement the proposed rule change immediately.

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

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest, by continuing to provide greater harmonization between the Exchange rules and FINRA rules of similar purpose, ¹⁰ resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance.

The proposed rule change, which extends the expiration date of the temporary amendments to the Exchange rules set forth in the November 5 Filing, will continue to aid the Exchange's efforts to timely conduct hearings in connection with its core adjudicatory functions. Given current COVID-19 conditions and the uncertainty around when those conditions will improve, without this relief allowing OHO and ERC hearings to continue to proceed by video conference, such hearings may need to be postponed indefinitely. The Exchange must be able to perform its critical adjudicatory functions in order to fulfill its statutory obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets. As such, this relief is essential to the Exchange's ability to fulfill its statutory obligations and allows hearing participants to avoid the serious COVID-19-related health and safety risks associated with in-person hearings.

Among other things, this relief will allow OHO to conduct temporary cease and desist proceedings by video conference so that the Exchange can take immediate action to stop ongoing customer harm and will allow the ERC to timely provide members, disqualified individuals and other applicants an approval or denial of their applications.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90619 (December 9, 2020), 85 FR 81250 (December 15, 2020) (SR-FINRA-2020-042). In SR-FINRA-2020-042, FINRA proposed rule changes to extend the expiration date of the temporary rule amendments set forth in SR-FINRA-2020-015 and SR-FINRA-2020-027 from December 31, 2020, to April 30, 2021. SR-FINRA-2020-015 provided temporary relief from some timing, method of service and other procedural requirements in FINRA's rules. SR-FINRA-2020-027 allowed FINRA's OHO and the NAC to conduct hearings, on a temporary basis, by video conference, if warranted by the current COVID-19-related public health risks posed by an in-person hearing.

As set forth in detail in the November 5 Filing, this temporary relief allowing OHO and ERC hearings to proceed by video conference accounts for fair process considerations and will continue to provide fair process while avoiding the COVID-19-related public health risks for hearing participants. Accordingly, the proposed rule change extending this temporary relief is in the public interest and consistent with the Act's purpose.

4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the temporary proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. As set forth in the November 5 Filing, the proposed rule change is intended solely to extend temporary relief necessitated by the continued impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak and the related health and safety risks of conducting in-person activities. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will prevent unnecessary impediments to its operations, including its critical adjudicatory processes, and its ability to fulfill its statutory obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets that would otherwise result if the temporary amendments were to expire on December 31, 2020.

- 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. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section

19(b)(3)(A)(iii)¹¹ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder¹² 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.

The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the requirement that the proposed rule change, by its terms, not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing as set forth in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), 13 so that the proposed rule change may become operative immediately. Waiver of the operative delay would allow the proposed changes, which are designed to minimize disruptions to the Exchange's operations in order to maintain fair processes and fulfill its obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets, to be operative on the date of filing.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

^{14 &}lt;u>Id.</u>

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

The proposed rule changes are based on similar FINRA rule changes. 15

- Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act
 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 <u>Federal Register</u>.

See supra note 10.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2020-092)

December , 2020

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Expiration Date of the Temporary Amendments Concerning Video Conference Hearings

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on December 17, 2020, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" 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 Exchange has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a "non-controversial" rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act, ³ which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. 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</u> Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to extend the expiration date of the temporary amendments in SR-NASDAQ-2020-076 from December 31, 2020 to April 30, 2021. The proposed rule change would not make any changes to the text of the Exchange rules.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/nasdaq/rules, 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 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> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. Purpose

In response to the COVID-19 global health crisis and the corresponding need to restrict in-person activities, the Exchange filed proposed rule change SR-NASDAQ-2020-076, which allows the Exchange's Office of Hearing Officers ("OHO") and the Exchange Review Council ("ERC") to conduct hearings, on a temporary basis, by video conference, if warranted by the current COVID-19-related public health risks posed by an in-person hearing. The COVID-19 conditions necessitating these temporary amendments persist, with cases rapidly escalating nationwide. Based on its assessment of current COVID-19 conditions, and the lack of certainty as to when COVID-19-related health concerns will subside, the Exchange has determined that there is a continued need for this temporary relief for several months beyond December 31, 2020. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to extend the expiration date of the temporary rule amendments in SR-NASDAQ-2020-076 from December 31, 2020, to April 30, 2021.

On November 5, 2020, the Exchange filed with the Commission a proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness, SR-NASDAQ-2020-076, to temporarily amend Exchange Rules 1015, 9261, 9524 and 9830 to grant OHO and the ERC authority⁴ to conduct hearings in connection with appeals of Membership Application Program decisions, disciplinary actions, eligibility proceedings and temporary and permanent cease and desist orders by video conference, if warranted by the current COVID-19-related public health risks posed by an in-person hearing (the "November 5 Filing").⁵ The Commission published its notice of filing and immediate effectiveness for the November 5 Filing on November 10, 2020.⁶ The temporary amendments, as originally proposed in the November 5 Filing, will expire on December 31, 2020, absent another proposed rule change filing by the Exchange.

The Exchange proposed the temporary amendments allowing for specified OHO and ERC hearings to be conducted by video conference in response to the COVID-19-related public health risks posed in connection with conducting traditional, in-person hearings. As set forth in the November 5 Filing, the Exchange relies on COVID-19 data and the guidance issued by public health authorities to determine whether the current public health risks presented by an in-person hearing may warrant a hearing by video

For OHO hearings under Exchange Rules 9261 and 9830, the proposed rule change temporarily grants authority to the Chief or Deputy Chief Hearing Officer to order that a hearing be conducted by video conference. For ERC hearings under Exchange Rules 1015 and 9524, this temporary authority is granted to the ERC or relevant Subcommittee.

The temporary amendments set forth in the November 5 Filing were subject to a 30- day operative delay and, accordingly, became operative on December 6, 2020.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90390 (November 10, 2020), 85 FR 73302 (November 17, 2020) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of File No. SR-NASDAQ-2020-076).

conference.⁷ As noted above, the COVID-19-related public health risks necessitating this temporary relief have not yet abated, with COVID-19 cases surging nationwide.

Based on its assessment of current COVID-19 conditions, including the recent escalation in COVID-19 cases nationwide, the Exchange does not believe the COVID-19- related health concerns necessitating this relief will subside by December 31, 2020, and has determined that there will be a continued need for this temporary relief for several months beyond December 31, 2020. Accordingly, the Exchange proposes to extend the expiration date of the temporary rule amendments in the November 5 Filing from December 31, 2020, to April 30, 2021. The extension of these temporary amendments allowing for specified OHO and ERC hearings to proceed by video conference will allow the Exchange's critical adjudicatory functions to continue to operate effectively in these extraordinary circumstances – enabling the Exchange to fulfill its statutory obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets – while also protecting the health and safety of hearing participants.

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, so the Exchange can implement the proposed rule change immediately.

2. 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,

As noted in the November 5 Filing, the temporary proposed rule change grants discretion to OHO and the ERC to order a video conference hearing. In deciding whether to schedule a hearing by video conference, OHO and the ERC may consider a variety of other factors in addition to COVID-19 trends.

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, by continuing to provide greater harmonization between the Exchange rules and FINRA rules of similar purpose, ¹⁰ resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance.

The proposed rule change, which extends the expiration date of the temporary amendments to the Exchange rules set forth in the November 5 Filing, will continue to aid the Exchange's efforts to timely conduct hearings in connection with its core adjudicatory functions. Given current COVID-19 conditions and the uncertainty around when those conditions will improve, without this relief allowing OHO and ERC hearings to continue to proceed by video conference, such hearings may need to be postponed indefinitely. The Exchange must be able to perform its critical adjudicatory functions in order to fulfill its statutory obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets. As such, this relief is essential to the Exchange's ability to fulfill its statutory obligations and allows hearing participants to avoid the serious COVID-19-related health and safety risks associated with in-person hearings.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 90619 (December 9, 2020), 85 FR 81250 (December 15, 2020) (SR-FINRA-2020-042). In SR-FINRA-2020-042, FINRA proposed rule changes to extend the expiration date of the temporary rule amendments set forth in SR-FINRA-2020-015 and SR-FINRA-2020-027 from December 31, 2020, to April 30, 2021. SR-FINRA-2020-015 provided temporary relief from some timing, method of service and other procedural requirements in FINRA's rules. SR-FINRA-2020-027 allowed FINRA's OHO and the NAC to conduct hearings, on a temporary basis, by video conference, if warranted by the current COVID-19-related public health risks posed by an in-person hearing.

Among other things, this relief will allow OHO to conduct temporary cease and desist proceedings by video conference so that the Exchange can take immediate action to stop ongoing customer harm and will allow the ERC to timely provide members, disqualified individuals and other applicants an approval or denial of their applications. As set forth in detail in the November 5 Filing, this temporary relief allowing OHO and ERC hearings to proceed by video conference accounts for fair process considerations and will continue to provide fair process while avoiding the COVID-19-related public health risks for hearing participants. Accordingly, the proposed rule change extending this temporary relief is in the public interest and consistent with the Act's purpose.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the temporary proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. As set forth in the November 5 Filing, the proposed rule change is intended solely to extend temporary relief necessitated by the continued impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak and the related health and safety risks of conducting in-person activities. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will prevent unnecessary impediments to its operations, including its critical adjudicatory processes, and its ability to fulfill its statutory obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets that would otherwise result if the temporary amendments were to expire on December 31, 2020.

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

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)(iii)¹¹ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder¹² 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.

The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the requirement that the proposed rule change, by its terms, not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing as set forth in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), ¹³ so that the proposed rule change may become operative immediately. Waiver of the operative delay would allow the proposed changes, which are designed to minimize disruptions to the Exchange's operations in order to maintain fair processes and fulfill its obligations to protect investors and maintain fair and orderly markets, to be operative on the date of 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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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

IV. Solicitation of Comments

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

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form
 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2020-092 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-2020-092. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the

Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2020-092 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. ¹⁴

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).