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 that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange expects other options exchanges will adopt substantively similar proposals, such that there would be no burden on intermarket competition from the Exchange’s proposal. Accordingly, the proposed change is not meant to affect competition among the options exchanges. For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment and does not impose any undue burden on intermarket competition.

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

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

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) of the Act and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b–4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b–4(f)(6)(iii), the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposed rule change may become operative upon filing. The Exchange requested the waiver, stating its desire to harmonize its rules to those of NYSE American to ensure fair competition among the options exchanges. Further, the proposed change would allow options on IPO’d securities to come to market sooner (i.e., at least two business days post-IPO not inclusive of the day of the IPO) without sacrificing investor protection. For these reasons, and because the proposed rule change does not raise any novel legal or regulatory issues, the Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Therefore, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay and designates the proposal operative upon filing.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is 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:

Electronic Comments
• Use the Commission’s internet comment form (https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml);
• Send an email to rule-comments@ sec.gov. Please include file number SR– CboeBZX–2023–064 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–CboeBZX–2023–064 and should be submitted on or before October 10, 2023.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 27

Sherry R. Haywood,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023–20080 Filed 9–15–23; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SEcurities And EXchange commISsion


Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Order Granting Approval of a Proposed Rule Change To Modify the Package of Complimentary Services Provided to Certain Eligible Switches September 12, 2023 and Make Other Changes to IM–5900–7 and IM–5900–7A

September 12, 2023.

I. Introduction

On June 21, 2023, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 post all comments on the Commission’s internet website (https://www.sec.gov/ rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and copying in the Commission’s Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR–CboeBZX–2023–064 and should be submitted on or before October 10, 2023.


23 17 CFR 400.10(b)(3)(A). 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, along with a brief description and text of 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.

24 17 CFR 400.10(b)(3)(A).


26 For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has also considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

include a whistleblower hotline, investor relations website, disclosure services for earnings or other press releases, webcasting, market analytic tools, environmental, social and governance (‘‘ESG’’) services, and may include market advisory tools such as stock surveillance (collectively the ‘‘Service Package’’).9 For Eligible New Listings, Nasdaq offers different tiers of complimentary services packages based upon whether the company has a market capitalization of (i) less than $750 million or (ii) $750 million or more.10 For Eligible Switches, Nasdaq offers different tiers of complimentary services packages based upon whether the company has a market capitalization of (i) less than $750 million; (ii) $750 million or more but less than $5 billion; or (iii) $5 billion or more.11 Nasdaq states that it believes that the complimentary service program offers valuable services to newly listing companies, is designed to help ease the transition of becoming a public company or switching markets, and makes listing on Nasdaq more attractive to these companies.12 According to Nasdaq, it faces competition in the market for listing services and believes that it is reasonable to offer complimentary services to attract and retain listings as part of this competition.13

Nasdaq proposes to modify the ESG services available to Eligible Switches with a market capitalization of $5 billion or more that list on or after the date of the Commission’s approval of the proposed rule change.14 Nasdaq provided to eligible companies and setting forth in IM–5900–7(a) the services offered to eligible companies (that listed before the effective date of the change).

According to Nasdaq, in addition, all companies listed on Nasdaq receive other standard services from Nasdaq, including Nasdaq Online and the Market Intelligence Desk. See Notice, supra note 3, at 43637, n.6.

See IM–5900–7(c) for additional detail about the types of complimentary services and length of the complimentary services period offered to each tier of Eligible New Listings.

See IM–5900–7(d) for additional detail about the types of complimentary services and length of the complimentary services period offered to each tier of Eligible New Listings.

See Notice, supra note 3 at 43637.

See id. at 43638. Nasdaq further states that all similarly situated companies are eligible for the same package of services. Id. at 43638.

See proposed IM–5900–7(d)(3)(A). Nasdaq also proposes to add a new paragraph to IM–5900–7(d)(3)(B) that sets forth the ESG services provided to an Eligible Switch with a market capitalization of $5 billion or more that listed before the effective date of the proposal. Specifically, proposed IM–5900–7(d)(3)(B) states: “An Eligible Switch that listed before the effective date of SR–NASDAQ–2023–017 and had a market capitalization of $5 billion or more is not eligible to receive the Advanced ESG Service or ESG Advisory Services, but instead receives the Core ESG Software Solution for four years. The total retail value of these services is up to approximately $281,200 per year. The Company will also receive one Virtual Event during the four-year period, which has a retail value of approximately $11,700.”

See supra note 8. All Eligible Companies receive access to a Core ESG software solution. This service is currently called “ESG Core” in IM–5900–7. Nasdaq proposes to make a technical change to rename the service to “Core ESG Software Solution.” No other changes are proposed to the service.

See Notice, supra note 3 at 43637.

See id. Nasdaq states this service has a retail value of approximately $52,500 per year. See id. at n. 10. In addition, one-time development fees of up to $21,500 to establish the services in the first year will be waived. See id. at n. 10. According to Nasdaq, the total one-time development fees that are waived for Eligible Companies that receive this service, as reflected in proposed IM–5900–7(d)(3)(A) is approximately $26,500, which also includes approximately $5,000 to establish the investor relations website. See id. at n. 10.

See id. at 43637.

See id. Nasdaq states that these services are designed to aid the company in identifying and incorporating ESG metrics into communications, with customized analysis and recommendations. See id.
value to Nasdaq than will other issuers by switching to its market.\textsuperscript{20} Further, each of these services will be available to Eligible Switches with a market capitalization of $5 billion or more for the same four-year term provided for other services to such category of Eligible Switches under Nasdaq Rule IM–5900–7.\textsuperscript{21} Nasdaq states that no company is required to use these services as a condition of listing and, as is the case with other complimentary services, at the end of the package term, companies may choose to renew these services or discontinue them.\textsuperscript{22}

Nasdaq also proposes to update the values of the services contained in Nasdaq Rules IM–5900–7 and IM–5900–7A to their current values.\textsuperscript{23} According to Nasdaq, depending on a company’s market capitalization and whether it is an Eligible New Listing or an Eligible Switch, the total revised value of the services provided to Eligible Companies (including the waiver of one-time fees) ranges from $364,800 to $1,533,000.\textsuperscript{24} Finally, Nasdaq proposes to simplify Nasdaq Rule IM–5900–7A by cross-referencing the description of services and their values that also appears in Nasdaq Rule IM–5900–7 and by deleting the descriptions of offerings that are no longer available to any companies.\textsuperscript{25}

\textsuperscript{20} See id. at 43639. Nasdaq also states that such companies would more likely forego ESG services offered by their current exchange when switching their listing to Nasdaq, which smaller companies would not. See id. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 94222 (February 10, 2022), 87 FR 8886 (February 16, 2022) (SR–NYSE–2021–68) (approving changes to NYSE Listed Company Manual Section 907.00, including the offer of ESG tools to currently listed companies with 270 million or more total shares outstanding, but not to companies with fewer shares outstanding).

\textsuperscript{21} See Notice, supra note 3 at 43637–38.

\textsuperscript{22} See id. at 43637.

\textsuperscript{23} Nasdaq states that these services are offered through Nasdaq Corporate Solutions, LLC, an affiliate of Nasdaq, or a third-party provider selected by Nasdaq. See id. at 43638.

\textsuperscript{24} See id. The exact values are set forth in proposed IM–5900–7 and IM–5900–7A. Nasdaq states that, in describing the total value of the services for companies that can select more than one market advisory tool, Nasdaq presumes that a company would use stock surveillance, which has an approximate retail value of $56,500, and global targeting, which has an approximate retail value of $49,000. See id. Nasdaq states that companies could select different combinations of these services offered with lower total approximate retail values. See id.

\textsuperscript{25} As to the description of offerings being deleted from IM–5900–7A, Nasdaq states that the services described in IM–5900–7A(c) and (d)(1) were provided for a term of two years to companies that listed before March 12, 2021. See id. at 13. Additionally, Nasdaq states that no company still receives the services described in IM–5900–7A(g), which applies only to companies that listed before April 23, 2018. See id. Nasdaq also proposes to revise the title of IM–5900–7 to specify that the rule Nasdaq represents that no other company will be required to pay higher fees as a result of the proposed amendments and that providing this service will have no impact on the resources available for its regulatory programs.\textsuperscript{26}

\textsuperscript{26} See id. at 43638. Nasdaq also represents that the proposed rule change is consistent Section 6 of the Act.\textsuperscript{27} Specifically, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Sections 6(b)(4) and (5) of the Act,\textsuperscript{28} in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among Exchange members, issuers, and other persons using the Exchange’s facilities, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. Moreover, the Commission believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,\textsuperscript{29} in that it does not impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

\textsuperscript{27} See id.

\textsuperscript{28} See id. at 43637. The Exchange also states that companies would more likely forego ESG services offered by their current exchange given that NYSE offers ESG tools to currently listed companies with 270 million or more total shares outstanding, but not to companies with fewer shares outstanding. See id. at 43638. See also NYSE Listed Company Manual Section 907.00.

\textsuperscript{29} See supra note 3, at 43638.

\textsuperscript{30} See id.

\textsuperscript{31} See supra note 2 at 43637.

\textsuperscript{32} See id.

\textsuperscript{33} See id. at 43639.

\textsuperscript{34} See id. at 43639. The Exchange also states that companies would more likely forego ESG services offered by their current exchange given that NYSE offers ESG tools to currently listed companies with 270 million or more total shares outstanding, but not to companies with fewer shares outstanding. See id. at 43638. See also NYSE Listed Company Manual Section 907.00.

\textsuperscript{35} See supra note 39, at 43638.

\textsuperscript{36} See id. at 43639. The Exchange also states that companies would more likely forego ESG services offered by their current exchange given that NYSE offers ESG tools to currently listed companies with 270 million or more total shares outstanding, but not to companies with fewer shares outstanding. See id. at 43638. See also NYSE Listed Company Manual Section 907.00.

\textsuperscript{37} See supra note 39, at 43638 and accompanying text.

\textsuperscript{38} See id. at 43638. Nasdaq also represents that the proposed rule change will help ensure that individual listed companies are not given specially negotiated packages of products or services to list, or remain listed. See id.

\textsuperscript{39} See id. at 43638. Nasdaq also represents that the proposed rule change will help ensure that individual listed companies are not given specially negotiated packages of products or services to list, or remain listed. See id.

\textsuperscript{40} See Notice, supra note 3, at 43638.

\textsuperscript{41} See id.
capitalization of $5 billion or more that list on or after the date of approval of the proposed rule change. For the reasons stated above, the Commission also believes that the proposal does not unfairly discriminate among issuers and is therefore consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act. In addition, the Commission believes that the proposed rule reflects the current competitive environment for exchange listings among national securities exchanges, and is appropriate and consistent with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act.37

Further, the Commission believes that describing in the Exchange’s rules the products and services available to Eligible Companies and their associated values, as well as the length of time companies are entitled to receive such services, will ensure that individual listed companies are not given specially negotiated packages of products or services to list, or remain listed, that would raise unfair discrimination issues under the Act.38 The Commission has previously found that the package of complimentary services offered to Eligible Companies is equitably allocated among issuers consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act and that describing the values of the services adds greater transparency to the Exchange’s rules and the fees applicable to such companies.39 As discussed above, the Commission believes that adding the Advanced ESG Services to the complimentary services package offered to Eligible Switches with a market capitalization of $5 billion or more for Eligible Switches that list on or after the effective date of the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act. For similar reasons, the Commission believes that the proposal does not unfairly discriminate among issuers and is therefore consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act. For similar reasons, the Commission believes that the proposal does not unfairly discriminate among issuers and is therefore consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act.

The Commission also believes that it is reasonable, and required by Section 19(b) of the Act,40 that Nasdaq amend its rules to update the products and services it offers to Eligible Companies contained in Nasdaq Rules IM–5900–7 and IM–5900–7A, including the time periods for which such products and services are offered and the commercial value of such products and services. This provides greater transparency to the Exchange’s rules and the fees, and the value of complimentary products and services, applicable to Eligible Companies.

Finally, the Commission finds that it is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act41 for Nasdaq to make various technical and conforming revisions, as described above,42 to facilitate clarity of its rules.

Conclusion
It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,43 that the proposed rule change (SR–NASDAQ–2023–017) be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.44

Sherry R. Haywood,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023–20087 Filed 9–15–23; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
[Disaster Declaration #18143 and #18144; Georgia Disaster Number GA–00158]

President’s Declaration of a Major Disaster for the State of Georgia

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a Notice of the President’s declaration of a major disaster for the State of Georgia (FEMA–4738–DR), dated 09/07/2023. Incident: Hurricane Ida. Incident Period: 08/30/2023.

DATES: Issued on 09/07/2023.

Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 11/06/2023.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 06/07/2024.

ADDRESSES: Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President’s major disaster declaration on 09/07/2023, applications for disaster loans may be filed at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Counties (Physical Damage and Economic Injury Loans): Cook, Glynn, Lowndes.


Florida: Hamilton, Madison.

The Interest Rates are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>For Physical Damage:</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeowners with Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homeowners without Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
<td>2.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Businesses with Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
<td>8.000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Businesses without Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
<td>4.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit Organizations with Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
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<th>For Economic Injury:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Businesses &amp; Small Agricultural Cooperatives without Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere</td>
<td>2.375</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 18143 and for economic injury is 18144.