

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-61310; File No. SR-NYSEAmex-2009-102]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by NYSE Amex LLC To Modify Its Liquidity Credits and Establish Separate Liquidity Credits for Supplemental Liquidity Providers

January 7, 2010.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) <sup>1</sup> of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") <sup>2</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>3</sup> notice is hereby given that, on December 31, 2009, NYSE Amex LLC ("NYSE Amex" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to modify its liquidity credits and establish liquidity credits for Supplemental Liquidity Providers ("SLPs"). These changes will take effect on January 1, 2010. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and <http://www.nyse.com>.

#### 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 self-regulatory organization 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 those 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 parts of such statements.

#### A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

##### 1. Purpose

NYSE Amex currently pays a rebate of \$0.0030 per share to customers providing liquidity in securities with a trading price of at least \$1.00 per share. With effect from January 1, 2010, this rebate will decrease to \$0.0015 per share.

In a recent filing, the Exchange established a Supplemental Liquidity Provider ("SLP") program.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange proposes to establish a system of credits payable to SLPs when they provide liquidity to the Exchange. The Exchange will pay a credit of \$0.0020 per share to SLPs when they add liquidity to the Exchange in securities with a per share price of \$1.00 or more, if the SLP meets the 3% average or more quoting requirement in an assigned security pursuant to Rule 107B. However, if the SLP does not meet the 3% average or more quoting requirement in an assigned security pursuant to Rule 107B, it will be entitled to the same \$0.0015 per share credit payable to all customers when adding liquidity to the Exchange in securities with a per share price of \$1.00 or more. The Exchange will pay a credit of \$0.0005 per share to SLPs when they add liquidity to the Exchange in securities with a per share price of less than \$1.00, if the SLP meets the 3% average or more quoting requirement in an assigned security pursuant to Rule 107B.

##### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 <sup>5</sup> of the Act in general and Section 6(b)(4) of the Act <sup>6</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange believes that the proposal does not constitute an inequitable allocation of dues, fees and other charges as all similarly situated member organizations will be subject to the same fee structure.

#### 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.

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

#### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) <sup>7</sup> of the Act and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 <sup>8</sup> thereunder, because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by NYSE Amex.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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.

#### 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 [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File No. SR-NYSEAmex-2009-102 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 No. SR-NYSEAmex-2009-102. 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

<sup>9</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

<sup>2</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78a.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>4</sup> See SR-NYSEAmex-2009-98.

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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,<sup>9</sup> 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 inspection 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 such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of NYSE Amex. 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 No. SR-NYSEAmex-2009-102 and should be submitted on or before February 4, 2010.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 6821]

### 60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: DS-4100, Iran Program Grants Vetting, Information Collection 1405-0176

**ACTION:** Notice of request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. We are conducting this process in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

- *Title of Information Collection:* Iran Program Grants
- *OMB Control Number:* 1405-0176
- *Type of Request:* Extension of a Currently Approved Collection
- *Originating Office:* Office of Iranian Affairs, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (NEA/IR)
- *Form Number:* DS-4100
- *Respondents:* Potential grantees and participants for Iran programs
- *Estimated Number of Respondents:* 100
- *Estimated Number of Responses:* 200
- *Average Hours Per Response:* 1
- *Total Estimated Burden:* 200
- *Frequency:* On occasion
- *Obligation to Respond:* Required to Obtain

**DATE(S):** The Department will accept comments from the public up to 60 days from January 14, 2010.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Direct requests for additional information regarding the collection listed in this notice, including requests for copies of the proposed information collection and supporting documents, to Danika Walters, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520, who may be reached on 202-647-1347, or via e-mail at [WaltersDL@state.gov](mailto:WaltersDL@state.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** We are soliciting public comments to permit the Department to:

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of our functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the proposed collection, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

### Abstract of Proposed Collection

The State Department has made the awarding of grants a key component of its Iran policy. As a condition of licensing these activities, the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) mandates that the Department conduct a vetting of potential Iran programs grantees and sub-grantees for counter-terrorism purposes. To conduct this vetting the Department envisions collecting information from grantees and sub-grantees regarding the identity and background of their key employees, board of directors, and program participants.

## Methodology

We will collect this information either through fax or electronic submission.

## Additional Information

Provide background or other information as applicable or useful. This is optional.

Dated: January 5, 2010.

**Sara Horner,**  
Office Director, Office of Iranian Affairs,  
Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Department  
of State.

[FR Doc. 2010-599 Filed 1-13-10; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6865]

### Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) Request for Grant Proposals: Global Undergraduate Exchange Program for Pakistan

*Announcement Type:* New Cooperative Agreement.

*Funding Opportunity Number:* ECA/A/E/SCA-10-01.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance  
Number: 19.009.

*Key Dates: Application Deadline:*  
February 15, 2010.

*Executive Summary:* The Office of Academic Exchange Programs of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition to administer the FY2010 Global Undergraduate Exchange Program for Pakistan. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in Internal Revenue Code section 26 USC 501(c)(3) in the United States may submit proposals to organize and carry out academic exchange activities for students from underrepresented sectors in Pakistan. The recipient organization will be responsible for the following aspects of the program: Placement of no less than 100 foreign students at accredited U.S. institutions (50 for fall semester 2010, 50 spring semester 2011) student travel to the U.S., orientation, enrichment programming, advising, monitoring and support, pre-return activities, evaluation, and follow-up with program alumni. Support for this program is being provided from special FY2009/FY2010 supplemental funds that have been appropriated to the Department. It is anticipated that the total amount of funding for FY2010 administrative and program costs will be \$2,000,000 pending availability of funds.

<sup>9</sup> The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).