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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act 10 and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. 11 Because the 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 prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b–4(f)(6) ¹² normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b–4(f)(6)(iii), ¹³ 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 proposal may become operative immediately upon filing.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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.

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 email to *rule-comments@sec.gov*. Please include File Number SR–NYSE–2012–04 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSE-2012-04. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 Web site viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090. Copies of the filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the NYSE's principal office and on its Internet Web site at www.nyse.com. 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–NYSE–2012–04 and should be submitted on or before March 15,

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 14

Kevin M. O'Neill,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012–4194 Filed 2–22–12; 8:45 am]

2012–4194 Filed 2–22–12; 8:45 am] removal of references

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-66408; File No. SR-CBOE-2011-126]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change Relating to the CBOE Stock Exchange Request for Quote Rules

February 16, 2012.

On December 27, 2011, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") 1 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to modify its rules relating to requests for quotes ("RFQs") on the CBOE Stock Exchange ("CBSX"). The proposal removes the rule provisions affording CBSX participants the ability to submit RFQs. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on January 13, 2012.3 The Commission received no comments on the proposal.

After careful review, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange 4 and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,5 which requires that the Commission determine that the rules of the Exchange are designed to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism for a free and open market. The proposal removes references pertaining to RFQs in the CBSX rules because the method of trading on CBSX obviates the need for an RFQ process. The Exchange represents that participants have not used, or inquired about using, RFQs on CBSX. Moreover, the systems of CBSX do not fully support transmitting RFQ messages. Given that the CBSX system for submitting RFQs is not currently functional, the Commission believes the removal of references to RFQs in the CBSX rules may prevent confusion among participants who may otherwise expect to be able to submit RFQs. For the foregoing reasons, the Commission

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

^{11 17} CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

^{12 17} CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

^{13 17} CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

 $^{^3}$ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 66119 (January 9, 2012), 77 FR 2112.

⁴ In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. *See* 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

^{5 15} U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

^{14 17} CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act.

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁶ that the proposed rule change (SR-CBOE-2011-126) be, and it hereby is, approved.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Kevin M. O'Neill,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2012-4193 Filed 2-22-12; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-66412; File No. SR-NYSEAMEX-2012-08]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Amex LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Deleting NYSE Amex Equities Rule 319, Which Addresses Fidelity Bond Requirements, and Adopt New Rule Text That Is Substantially Similar to FINRA Rule 4360

February 16, 2012.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")² and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that on February 3, 2012, NYSE Amex LLC (the "Exchange" or "NYSE Amex") 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 delete NYSE Amex Equities Rule 319, which addresses fidelity bond requirements, and adopt new rule text that is substantially similar to FINRA Rule 4360. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange, the Commission's Public Reference Room, and 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 Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to delete NYSE Amex Equities Rule 319, which addresses fidelity bond requirements, and adopt new rule text that is substantially similar to FINRA Rule 4360.4

Background

On July 30, 2007, FINRA's predecessor, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"), and NYSE Regulation, Inc. ("NYSER") consolidated their member firm regulation operations into a combined organization, FINRA. Pursuant to Rule 17d-2 under the Act, NYSE, NYSER and FINRA entered into an agreement (the "Agreement") to reduce regulatory duplication for their members by allocating to FINRA certain regulatory responsibilities for certain NYSE rules and rule interpretations ("FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules"). NYSE Amex LLC ("NYSE Amex") became a party to the Agreement effective December 15, 2008.5

As part of its effort to reduce regulatory duplication and relieve firms that are members of FINRA, NYSE and NYSE Amex of conflicting or unnecessary regulatory burdens, FINRA is now engaged in the process of reviewing and amending the NASD and FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules in order to create a consolidated FINRA rulebook.⁶

Proposed Conforming Amendments to NYSE Amex Equities Rules

The Exchange proposes to delete NYSE Amex Equities Rule 319 and adopt new NYSE Amex Equities Rule 4360 to conform to the changes adopted by FINRA for fidelity bonds. FINRA adopted NASD Rule 3020 as FINRA Rule 4360, taking into account NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation. FINRA Rule 4360 updates and clarifies fidelity bond requirements for member firms and better reflects current industry practices. The Rule requires each FINRA member that is required to join Securities Investor Protection Corporation to maintain blanket fidelity bond coverage with specified amounts of coverage based on the member organization's net capital requirement, with certain exceptions, and to maintain fidelity bond coverage that provides for per loss coverage without an aggregate limit of liability.

Because it covers the same topic as the new FINRA rule, FINRA deleted FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation. In particular, NYSE Rule 319 and its Interpretation generally require member organizations to maintain minimum amounts of fidelity bond coverage for officers and employees, and that such coverage address losses incurred due to certain specified events. To harmonize the NYSE Amex Equities Rules with the approved FINRA Rules, the Exchange correspondingly proposes to delete NYSE Amex Equities Rule 319 and to adopt proposed NYSE Amex Equities Rule 4360. The text of proposed NYSE Amex Equities Rule 4360 would be the same as FINRA Rule 4360, except that the Exchange would substitute the term "member organization" for "member" and "Exchange" for "FINRA."

^{6 15} U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

^{7 17} CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

^{3 17} CFR 240.19b-4.

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63961 (February 24, 2011), 76 FR 11542 (March 2, 2011) (SR–FINRA–2010–059). FINRA's rule change became effective on January 1, 2012. See FINRA Regulatory Notice 11–21.

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 56148 (July 26, 2007), 72 FR 42146 (August 1, 2007) (order approving the Agreement); 56147 (July 26, 2007), 72 FR 42166 (August 1, 2007) (SR–NASD–2007–054) (order approving the incorporation of certain NYSE Rules as "Common Rules"); and 60409 (July 30, 2009), 74 FR 39353 (August 6, 2009) (order approving the amended and restated Agreement, adding NYSE Amex LLC as a party). Paragraph 2(b) of the Agreement sets forth procedures regarding proposed changes by FINRA, NYSE or NYSE Amex to the substance of any of the Common Rules.

⁶ FINRA's rulebook currently has three sets of rules: (1) NASD Rules, (2) FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules, and (3) consolidated FINRA Rules. The FINRA Incorporated NYSE Rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"), while the consolidated FINRA Rules apply to all FINRA members. For more information about the FINRA rulebook consolidation process, see FINRA Information Notice, March 12, 2008.

⁷The purpose of a fidelity bond is to protect a member organization against certain types of losses, including, but not limited to, those caused by the malfeasance of its officers and employees, and the effect of such losses on the member organization's capital.