

information and instead adopt alternative payment arrangements.

The Exchange also does not believe that the proposal will create an intramarket burden on competition, since the proposed direct debit process will be applied equally to all member organizations. Moreover, other exchanges utilize a similar process which the Exchange believes is generally familiar to member organizations. Consequently, the Exchange does not believe that the proposal raises any new or novel issues that have not been previously considered by the Commission in connection with direct debit and billing policies of other exchanges. Further, this proposal is expected to provide a cost savings to the Exchange in that it would alleviate administrative processes related to the collection of monies owed to the Exchange. In addition, the debiting process would mitigate against member organization accounts becoming overdue.

*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 Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>12</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>13</sup> 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)<sup>14</sup> normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii),<sup>15</sup> the Commission may designate a shorter time if such

action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B)<sup>16</sup> of the Act 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>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR-NYSEAMER-2024-19 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-NYSEAMER-2024-19. 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 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 printing 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-NYSEAMER-2024-19 and should be submitted on or before April 17, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>17</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-06455 Filed 3-26-24; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release No. 34-99833; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2023-101]**

**Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Order Instituting Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change To List and Trade Shares of the Pando Asset Spot Bitcoin Trust Under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares**

March 21, 2024.

On December 5, 2023, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> a proposed rule change to list and trade shares ("Shares") of the Pando Asset Spot Bitcoin Trust ("Trust") under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), Commodity-Based Trust Shares. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on December 22, 2023.<sup>3</sup>

On February 1, 2024, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>4</sup> the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the

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

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

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99197 (Dec. 22, 2023), 88 FR 88668 ("Notice"). Comments on the proposed rule change are available at <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-cboebzx-2023-101/sr-cboebzx2023101.htm>.

<sup>4</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>15</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

<sup>16</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

proposed rule change.<sup>5</sup> This order institutes proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act<sup>6</sup> to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.

### I. Summary of the Proposal

As described in more detail in the Notice,<sup>7</sup> the Exchange proposes to list and trade the Shares of the Trust under BZX Rule 14.11(e)(4), which governs the listing and trading of Commodity-Based Trust Shares on the Exchange.

The investment objective of the Trust is to generally reflect the performance of the price of bitcoin before payment of the Trust's expenses.<sup>8</sup> The Trust's assets will consist of bitcoin held by the Trust's bitcoin custodian on behalf of the Trust and cash holdings, if any.<sup>9</sup> The Trust will value its Shares daily based on the value of bitcoin as reflected by the CME CF Bitcoin Reference Rate ("Index").<sup>10</sup> The administrator for the Trust will determine the net asset value ("NAV") of the Trust on each day that the Exchange is open for regular trading, as promptly as practicable after 4:00 p.m. ET.<sup>11</sup> In determining the Trust's NAV, the administrator for the Trust will value the bitcoin held by the Trust based on the price set by the Index as of 4:00 p.m. ET.<sup>12</sup>

### II. Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove SR–CboeBZX–2023–101 and Grounds for Disapproval Under Consideration

The Commission is instituting proceedings pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act<sup>13</sup> to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved. Institution of proceedings is appropriate at this time in view of the legal and policy issues raised by the proposed rule change, as discussed below. Institution of proceedings does not indicate that the Commission has reached any conclusions with respect to

any of the issues involved. Rather, as described below, the Commission seeks and encourages interested persons to provide comments on the proposed rule change.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act,<sup>14</sup> the Commission is providing notice of the grounds for disapproval under consideration. The Commission is instituting proceedings to allow for additional analysis of the proposed rule change's consistency with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that the rules of a national securities exchange be "designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices" and "to protect investors and the public interest."<sup>15</sup>

The Commission asks that commenters address the sufficiency of the Exchange's statements in support of the proposal, which are set forth in the Notice, in addition to any other comments they may wish to submit about the proposed rule change. In particular, the Commission seeks commenters' views on whether the Exchange has sufficiently described the Trust, the terms of the Trust, and representations that would apply to the Trust, including the applicable listing standards.

### III. Procedure: Request for Written Comments

The Commission requests that interested persons provide written submissions of their views, data, and arguments with respect to the issues identified above, as well as any other concerns they may have with the proposal. In particular, the Commission invites the written views of interested persons concerning whether the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) or any other provision of the Act, and the rules and regulations thereunder. Although there do not appear to be any issues relevant to approval or disapproval that would be facilitated by an oral presentation of views, data, and arguments, the Commission will consider, pursuant to Rule 19b–4, any request for an opportunity to make an oral presentation.<sup>16</sup>

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments regarding whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved by April 17, 2024. Any person who wishes to file a rebuttal to any other person's submission must file that rebuttal by May 1, 2024.

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>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include file number SR–CboeBZX–2023–101 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–2023–101. 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 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 printing 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–2023–101 and should be submitted on or before April 17, 2024. Rebuttal comments should be submitted by May 1, 2024.

<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99460, 89 FR 8472 (Feb. 7, 2024). The Commission designated March 21, 2024, as the date by which the Commission shall approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change.

<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

<sup>7</sup> See Notice, *supra* note 3.

<sup>8</sup> See *id.* at 88677. Pando Asset AG ("Sponsor") is the sponsor of the Trust. See *id.* at 88669. Donald J. Puglisi is the trustee of the Trust. See *id.* at 88676.

<sup>9</sup> See *id.* at 88676. In seeking to achieve its investment objective, the Trust will only hold bitcoin, cash and cash equivalents. Coinbase Custody Trust Company, LLC will be responsible for custody of the Trust's bitcoin holdings. See *id.* at 88669, 88677.

<sup>10</sup> See *id.* at 88677.

<sup>11</sup> See *id.*

<sup>12</sup> See *id.*

<sup>13</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

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

<sup>16</sup> Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, as amended by the Securities Acts Amendments of 1975, Public Law 94–29 (June 4, 1975), grants the Commission flexibility to determine what type of proceeding—either oral or notice and opportunity for written comments—is appropriate for consideration of a particular proposal by a self-regulatory organization. See Securities Acts Amendments of 1975, Senate Comm. on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, S. Rep. No. 75, 94th Cong., 1st Sess. 30 (1975).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>17</sup>

**Sherry R. Haywood,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2024-06459 Filed 3-26-24; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-99823; File No. SR-PEARL-2024-14]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; MIAX PEARL, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the MIAX Pearl Options Exchange Fee Schedule To Modify Certain Connectivity and Port Fees

March 21, 2024.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on March 11, 2024, MIAX PEARL, LLC (“MIAX Pearl” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. 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 is filing a proposal to amend the MIAX Pearl Options Exchange Fee Schedule (the “Fee Schedule”) to amend certain connectivity and port fees.<sup>3</sup>

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at <https://www.miaxoptions.com/rule-filings>, at MIAX Pearl’s principal office, 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

The Exchange proposes to amend the Fee Schedule as follows: (1) increase the fees for a 10 gigabit (“Gb”) ultra-low latency (“ULL”) fiber connection for Members<sup>4</sup> and non-Members; (2) amend the calculation of fees for MIAX Express Network Full Service (“MEO”) <sup>5</sup> Ports (Bulk and Single); and (3) amend the fees for Full Service MEO Ports (Bulk and Single). The Exchange and its affiliate, Miami International Securities Exchange, LLC (“MIAX”) operated 10Gb ULL connectivity on a single shared network that provided access to both exchanges via a single 10Gb ULL connection.

Beginning in January 2023, the Exchange determined a substantial operational need to no longer operate 10Gb ULL connectivity on a single shared network with MIAX. The Exchange bifurcated 10Gb ULL connectivity due to ever-increasing capacity constraints and to enable it to continue to satisfy the anticipated access needs for Members and other market participants.<sup>6</sup> The Exchange has experienced ongoing increases in expenses in recent years. As discussed more fully below, the Exchange recently calculated annual aggregate costs of \$15,593,990 for providing 10Gb ULL connectivity on a single unshared network (an overall increase over its prior cost to provide 10Gb ULL connectivity on a shared network with

MIAX) and \$1,989,497 for providing Full Service MEO Ports.<sup>7</sup>

Much of the cost relates to monitoring and analysis of data and performance of the network via the subscriber’s connection with nanosecond granularity, and continuous improvements in network performance with the goal of improving the subscriber’s experience. The costs associated with maintaining and enhancing a state-of-the-art network is a significant expense for the Exchange, and thus the Exchange believes that it is reasonable and appropriate to help offset those increased costs by amending fees for connectivity services. Subscribers expect the Exchange to provide this level of support so they continue to receive the performance they expect. This differentiates the Exchange from its competitors.

The Exchange now proposes to amend the Fee Schedule to amend the fees for 10Gb ULL connectivity and Full Service MEO Ports (Bulk and Single) in order to recoup cost related to bifurcating 10Gb connectivity to the Exchange and MIAX as well as the ongoing costs and increase in expenses set forth below in the Exchange’s cost analysis.<sup>8</sup> While the proposed fee changes are immediately effective, the Exchange notes that a version of the proposed fee changes has been effective since January 1, 2023 pursuant to the Exchange’s initially filed proposal on December 30, 2022 (the “Initial Proposal”).<sup>9</sup> On February 23, 2023, the Exchange withdrew the Initial Proposal and replaced it with a revised proposal (the “Second Proposal”).<sup>10</sup> On April 20, 2023, the Exchange withdrew the Second Proposal and replaced it with a revised proposal (the “Third Proposal”).<sup>11</sup> On June 16, 2023, the Exchange withdrew the Third Proposal and replaced it with a revised proposal (the “Fourth Proposal”).<sup>12</sup> On August 8, 2023, the

<sup>4</sup> The term “Member” means an individual or organization approved to exercise the trading rights associated with a Trading Permit. Members are deemed “members” under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.

<sup>5</sup> The term “MEO Interface” or “MEO” means a binary order interface for certain order types as set forth in Rule 516 into the MIAX Pearl System. See the Definitions Section of the Fee Schedule and Exchange Rule 100.

<sup>6</sup> See MIAX Options and MIAX Pearl Options—Announce planned network changes related to shared 10G ULL extranet, issued August 12, 2022, available at <https://www.miaxglobal.com/alert/2022/08/12/miax-options-and-miax-pearl-options-announce-planned-network-changes-0>. The Exchange will continue to provide access to both the Exchange and MIAX over a single shared 1Gb connection. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 96553 (December 20, 2022), 87 FR 79379 (December 27, 2022) (SR-PEARL-2022-60); 96545 (December 20, 2022) 87 FR 79393 (December 27, 2022) (SR-MIAX-2022-48).

<sup>7</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, all references to costs in this filing, including the cost categories discussed below, refer to costs incurred by MIAX Pearl Options only and not MIAX Pearl Equities, the equities trading facility.

<sup>8</sup> The Exchange notes that MIAX will make a similar filing to increase its 10Gb ULL connectivity fees.

<sup>9</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 96632 (January 10, 2023), 88 FR 2707 (January 17, 2023) (SR-PEARL-2022-62).

<sup>10</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 97082 (March 8, 2023), 88 FR 15825 (March 14, 2023) (SR-PEARL-2023-05).

<sup>11</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 97420 (May 2, 2023), 88 FR 29701 (May 8, 2023) (SR-PEARL-2023-19).

<sup>12</sup> The Exchange met with Commission Staff to discuss the Third Proposal during which the Commission Staff provided feedback and requested additional information, including, most recently, information about total costs related to certain third

<sup>17</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(57).

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

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> All references to the “Exchange” in this filing mean MIAX Pearl Options. Any references to the equities trading facility of MIAX PEARL, LLC, will specifically be referred to as “MIAX Pearl Equities.”