

### *Title and Purpose of Information Collection*

Statement of Claimant or Other Person; OMB 3220-0183. To support an application for an annuity under Section 2 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) or for unemployment benefits under Section 2 of the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA), pertinent information and proofs must be furnished for the RRB to determine benefit entitlement. Circumstances may require an applicant or other person(s) having knowledge of facts relevant to the applicant's eligibility for an annuity or benefits to provide written statements supplementing or changing statements previously provided by the applicant. Under the railroad retirement program these statements may relate to changes in annuity beginning date(s), dates for marriage(s), birth(s), prior railroad or non-railroad employment, an applicant's request for reconsideration of an unfavorable RRB eligibility determination for an annuity or various other matters. The statements may also be used by the RRB to secure a variety of information needed to determine eligibility to unemployment and sickness benefits. Procedures related to providing information needed for RRA annuity or RUIA benefit eligibility determinations are prescribed in 20 CFR parts 217 and 320 respectively.

The RRB utilizes Form G-93, *Statement of Claimant or Other Person* to obtain the supplemental or corrective information from applicants or other persons needed to determine applicant eligibility for an RRA annuity or RUIA benefits.

The RRB proposes no changes to Form G-93.

The completion time for Form G-93 is estimated at 15 minutes per response. The RRB estimates that approximately 900 Form G-93's are received annually. Completion is voluntary. One response is requested of each respondent.

**Additional Information or Comments:** To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312) 751-3363 or send an e-mail request to [Charles.Mierzwa@RRB.GOV](mailto:Charles.Mierzwa@RRB.GOV). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 or send an e-mail to [Ronald.Hodapp@RRB.GOV](mailto:Ronald.Hodapp@RRB.GOV). Written

comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

**Charles Mierzwa,**  
*Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. E6-3032 Filed 3-2-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7905-01-P**

## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release Number 34-53360; File No. 4-511]**

### **Roundtable on Internal Control Reporting Requirements**

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of roundtable discussions; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board announced on February 16, 2006 that they will sponsor a roundtable May 10, 2006, at the Commission's headquarters in Washington, DC, to discuss second-year experiences with the reporting and auditing requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 related to companies' internal control over financial reporting. The roundtable discussion will include issuers, auditors, investors and other interested parties.

"Last spring's informative roundtable resulted in valuable guidance," said SEC Chairman Christopher Cox. "We look forward to an update on compliance efforts after year two. I'm pleased that the PCAOB is coordinating this year's roundtable with the SEC. We will carefully consider the facts presented to help develop policies to effectively and efficiently improve the reliability of financial statements for the benefit of investors."

"I am very much open to suggestions to make the internal control assessment process more efficient, including modifications of the PCAOB's auditing standard and other actions the Board could undertake," said PCAOB Acting Chairman Bill Gradison. "This is the PCAOB's highest priority policy issue."

The Commission and the PCAOB further announced today that, in addition to the roundtable, they are seeking written feedback from registrants, auditors, investors and others on their experiences with complying with the Section 404 requirements. The Commission is not soliciting feedback on a particular set of inquiries. The information that is submitted to either organization will become part of the public record of the Section 404 roundtable.

**DATES:** Members of the public are encouraged to provide the submissions before May 1, 2006.

**ADDRESSES:** To help us process and review your comments more efficiently, comments should be sent by one method only. Comments should be submitted electronically at the following e-mail address: [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Comments may also be submitted using the Commission's *Internet submission form* at <http://www.sec.gov/news/press.shtml>. Comments may also be submitted in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090. All comment letters should refer to File Number 4-511; this File number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. Comment letters will also be posted on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/news/press/4-511.shtml>). Comment letters will be available for public inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Consuelo Hitchcock (202-551-3500) or Nancy Salisbury (202-551-5300) at Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549.

Dated: February 24, 2006.

**Nancy M. Morris,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E6-3031 Filed 3-2-06; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8010-01-P**

## **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release No. 34-53363; File No. SR-Amex-2006-18]**

### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; American Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Adoption of a Licensing Fee for Options on the PowerShares Zacks SmallCap Portfolio**

February 24, 2006.

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 February 15, 2006, the American Stock Exchange LLC ("Amex" or "Exchange") submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by Amex. Amex has

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

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

designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders it effective upon filing with the Commission. 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 Options Fee Schedule by adopting a per contract license fee for the orders of specialists, registered options traders ("ROTs"), firms, non-member market makers, and broker-dealers in connection with options transactions in the PowerShares Zacks SmallCap Portfolio (symbol: PZJ).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Amex's Web site at <http://www.amex.com>, at the principal office of the Amex, 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, Amex 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. Amex 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**

Amex proposes to adopt a per contract licensing fee for options on PZJ. These fee changes will be assessed on members commencing February 16, 2006.

The Exchange has entered into numerous agreements with various index providers for the purpose of trading options on certain exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), such as PZJ. This requirement to pay an index license fee to a third party is a condition to the listing and trading of these ETF options. In many cases, the Exchange is required to pay a significant licensing fee to the

index provider that may not be reimbursed. In an effort to recoup the costs associated with certain index licenses, the Exchange has established a per contract licensing fee for the orders of specialists, ROTs, firms, non-member market makers and broker-dealers, which is collected on every option transaction in designated products in which such market participant is a party.<sup>5</sup>

The purpose of this proposal is to charge an options licensing fee in connection with options on PZJ (the "PowerShares SmallCap ETF"). Specifically, Amex seeks to charge an options licensing fee of \$0.05 per contract side for the PowerShares SmallCap ETF option for specialist, ROT, firm, non-member market maker and broker-dealer orders executed on the Exchange. In all cases, the fees will be charged only to the Exchange members through whom the orders are placed.

The proposed options licensing fee will allow the Exchange to recoup its costs in connection with the index license fee for the trading of the PowerShares SmallCap ETF option. The fees will be collected on every order of a specialist, ROT, firm, non-member market maker, and broker-dealer executed on the Exchange. The Exchange believes that the proposal to require payment of a per contract licensing fee in connection with the PowerShares SmallCap ETF option by those market participants that are the beneficiaries of Exchange index license agreements is justified and consistent with the rules of the Exchange.

The Exchange notes that the Amex, in recent years, has revised a number of fees to better align Exchange fees with the actual cost of delivering services and reduce Exchange subsidies of such services.<sup>6</sup> Amex believes that the implementation of this proposal is consistent with the reduction and/or elimination of these subsidies. Amex believes that these fees will help to allocate to those market participants engaging in transactions in PowerShares SmallCap ETF options, a fair share of the related costs of offering such options.

The Exchange asserts that the proposal is equitable as required by Section 6(b)(4) of the Act.<sup>7</sup> In

<sup>5</sup> See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 52493 (September 22, 2005), 70 FR 56941 (September 29, 2005).

<sup>6</sup> See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 45360 (January 29, 2002), 67 FR 5626 (February 6, 2002); and 44286 (May 9, 2001), 66 FR 27187 (May 16, 2001).

<sup>7</sup> Section 6(b)(4) states that the rules of a national securities exchange provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other

charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities.

connection with the adoption of an options licensing fee for PowerShares SmallCap ETF options, the Exchange believes that charging an options licensing fee, where applicable, to all market participant orders except for customer orders is reasonable, given the competitive pressures in the industry.<sup>8</sup> Accordingly, the Exchange seeks, through this proposal, to better align its transaction charges with the cost of providing products.

##### **2. Statutory Basis**

Amex believes that the proposed fee change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>9</sup> regarding the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among exchange members and other persons using exchange facilities.

#### *B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition*

Amex believes that the proposed rule change does not 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 was filed pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>10</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>11</sup> because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization.

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

charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities.

<sup>8</sup> Telephone call between Jeffrey Burns, Vice President and Associate General Counsel, Amex, and Angela Muehr, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation ("Division"), Commission, on February 22, 2006.

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

<sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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

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

**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 Number SR–Amex–2006–18 on the subject line.

*Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549–1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–Amex–2006–18. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission’s Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the 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 Number SR–Amex–2006–18 and should be submitted on or before March 24, 2006.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>12</sup>

**Nancy M. Morris,**  
*Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E6–3015 Filed 3–2–06; 8:45 am]

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34–53372; File No. SR–CBOE–2006–10]

**Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Exchange Fees for Fiscal Year 2006**

February 24, 2006.

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 January 31, 2006, the Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated (“CBOE” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the CBOE. The CBOE has designated this proposal as one establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the CBOE under section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b–4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission.<sup>5</sup> 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 amend its Fees Schedule to make various changes for fiscal year 2006. The text of the proposed rule change is included below. Proposed new language is *italicized*; proposed deletions are in [brackets].

**Chicago Board Options Exchange, Inc. Fees Schedule**

[January 13] *February 1, 2006*

1. Options Transaction Fees (1)(3)(4)(7)(16):

Equity Options (13):

	Per contract
I. Customer .....	.00
II. Market-Maker (MM) (standard rate)(10) .....	.22
III. Member Firm Proprietary: (11) .....	.20
• Facilitation Of Customer Order .....	.24
• Non-Facilitation Order .....	.25
IV. Broker-Dealer .....	.26
V. Non-Member Market Maker .....	.12
VI. Designated Primary Market-Maker (DPM) (10)(14) .....	.14
• <i>As of March 1, 2006</i> .....	.25
VII. Electronic DPM (e-DPM) (14) .....	.24
VIII. Linkage Orders (8) .....	.26
IX. Remote Market-Maker (14) .....	.26
QQQQ and SPDR Options: Unchanged.	

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

<sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b–4(f)(2).

<sup>5</sup> The Exchange intends for the proposed changes to the Fees Schedule to take effect on February 1, 2006.