

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available

From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

Extension:

Rule 17d-1, OMB Control No. 3235-0562, SEC File No. 270-505.

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Section 17(d) (15 U.S.C. 80a-17(d)) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a *et seq.*) (the “Act”) prohibits first- and second-tier affiliates of a fund, the fund’s principal underwriters, and affiliated persons of the fund’s principal underwriters, acting as principal, to effect any transaction in which the fund or a company controlled by the fund is a joint or a joint and several participant in contravention of the Commission’s rules. Rule 17d-1 (17 CFR 270.17d-1) prohibits an affiliated person of or principal underwriter for any fund (a “first-tier affiliate”), or any affiliated person of such person or underwriter (a “second-tier affiliate”), acting as principal, from participating in or effecting any transaction in connection with a joint enterprise or other joint arrangement in which the fund is a participant, unless prior to entering into the enterprise or arrangement “an application regarding [the transaction] has been filed with the Commission and has been granted by an order.” In reviewing the proposed affiliated transaction, the rule provides that the Commission will consider whether the proposal is (i) consistent with the provisions, policies, and purposes of the Act, and (ii) on a basis different from or less advantageous than that of other participants in determining whether to grant an exemptive application for a proposed joint enterprise, joint arrangement, or profit-sharing plan.

Rule 17d-1 also contains a number of exceptions to the requirement that a fund must obtain Commission approval prior to entering into joint transactions or arrangements with affiliates. For example, funds do not have to obtain Commission approval for certain employee compensation plans, certain

tax-deferred employee benefit plans, certain transactions involving small business investment companies, the receipt of securities or cash by certain affiliates pursuant to a plan of reorganization, certain arrangements regarding liability insurance policies and transactions with “portfolio affiliates” (companies that are affiliated with the fund solely as a result of the fund (or an affiliated fund) controlling them or owning more than five percent of their voting securities) so long as certain other affiliated persons of the fund (*e.g.*, the fund’s adviser, persons controlling the fund, and persons under common control with the fund) are not parties to the transaction and do not have a “financial interest” in a party to the transaction. The rule excludes from the definition of “financial interest” any interest that the fund’s board of directors (including a majority of the directors who are not interested persons of the fund) finds to be not material, as long as the board records the basis for its finding in their meeting minutes.

Thus, the rule contains two filing and recordkeeping requirements that constitute collections of information. First, rule 17d-1 requires funds that wish to engage in a joint transaction or arrangement with affiliates to meet the procedural requirements for obtaining exemptive relief from the rule’s prohibition on joint transactions or arrangements involving first- or second-tier affiliates. Second, rule 17d-1 permits a portfolio affiliate to enter into a joint transaction or arrangement with the fund if a prohibited participant has a financial interest that the fund’s board determines is not material and records the basis for this finding in their meeting minutes. These requirements of rule 17d-1 are designed to prevent fund insiders from managing funds for their own benefit, rather than for the benefit of the funds’ shareholders.

Based on an analysis of past filings, Commission staff estimates that 13 funds file applications under section 17(d) and rule 17d-1 per year. The staff understands that funds that file an application generally obtain assistance from outside counsel to prepare the application. The cost burden of using outside counsel is discussed below. The Commission staff estimates that each applicant will spend an average of 154 hours to comply with the Commission’s applications process. The Commission staff therefore estimates the annual burden hours per year for all funds under rule 17d-1’s application process to be 2,002 hours at a cost of \$726,206.¹

¹ The Commission staff estimates that a senior executive, such as the fund’s chief compliance

The Commission, therefore, requests authorization to increase the inventory of total burden hours per year for all funds under rule 17d-1 from the current authorized burden of 1,232 hours to 2,002 hours. The increase is due to an increase in the number of funds that filed applications for exemptions under rule 17d-1.

As noted above, the Commission staff understands that funds that file an application under rule 17d-1 generally use outside counsel to assist in preparing the application. The staff estimates that, on average, funds spend an additional \$93,131 for outside legal services in connection with seeking Commission approval of affiliated joint transactions. Thus, the staff estimates that the total annual cost burden imposed by the exemptive application requirements of rule 17d-1 is \$1,210,703.²

We estimate that funds currently do not rely on the exemption from the term “financial interest” with respect to any interest that the fund’s board of directors (including a majority of the directors who are not interested persons of the fund) finds to be not material. Accordingly, we estimate that annually there will be no transactions under rule 17d-1 that will result in this aspect of the collection of information.

Based on these calculations, the total annual hour burden is estimated to be 2,002 hours and the total annual cost burden is estimated to be \$1,024,441.

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act. The estimate is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules. Complying with these collections of information requirement is necessary to obtain the benefit of relying on rule 17d-1. Responses will not be kept confidential. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of

officer, will spend an average of 62 hours and a mid-level compliance attorney will spend an average of 92 hours to comply with this collection of information: 62 hours + 92 hours = 154 hours. 13 funds × 154 burden hours = 2,002 burden hours. The Commission staff estimate that the chief compliance officer is paid \$441 per hour and the compliance attorney is paid \$310 per hour. (\$441 per hour × 62 hours) + (\$310 per hour × 92 hours) = \$55,862 per fund. \$55,862 × 13 funds = \$726,206. The \$441 and \$310 per hour figures are based on salary information compiled by SIFMA’s *Management & Professional Earnings in the Securities Industry, 2012*. The Commission staff has modified SIFMA’s information to account for an 1800-hour work year and multiplied by 5.35 to account for bonuses, firm size, employee benefits, and overhead.

² The estimate is based on the following calculation: \$93,131 × 13 funds = \$1,210,703.

information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The public may view the background documentation for this information collection at the following Web site, www.reginfo.gov. Comments should be directed to: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, or by sending an email to: Shagufta_Ahmed@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) Thomas Bayer, Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Remi Pavlik-Simon, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: March 11, 2014.

Kevin M. O'Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-71684; File No. SR-NYSE-2014-09]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Amending the NYSE Price List and To Make the Fee Changes Operative March 1, 2014

March 11, 2014.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that, on February 24, 2014, New York Stock Exchange LLC (“NYSE” 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 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 amend its Price List to (i) amend the fee for certain market at-the-close (“MOC”) and limit at-the-close (“LOC”) orders; (ii) amend

the fee for Midpoint Passive Liquidity (“MPL”) orders; (iii) add a new credit for certain non-Floor broker transactions; (iv) increase the fee for certain non-Floor broker transactions; (v) increase the fee for certain Floor broker transactions; (vi) introduce additional credits for certain Floor broker transactions; (vii) increase the fee for certain Designated Market Maker (“DMM”) transactions; (viii) increase the credits for certain DMM transactions; (ix) introduce a monthly DMM credit for certain securities; and (x) revise the credits for Supplemental Liquidity Providers (“SLPs”). The proposed fees would be operative on March 1, 2014. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at www.nyse.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and the 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 amend its Price List to (i) amend the fee for certain MOC and LOC orders; (ii) amend the fee for MPL orders; (iii) add a new credit for certain non-Floor broker transactions; (iv) increase the fee for certain non-Floor broker transactions; (v) increase the fee for certain Floor broker transactions; (vi) introduce additional credits for certain Floor broker transactions; (vii) increase the fee for certain DMM transactions; (viii) increase the credits for certain DMM transactions; (ix) introduce a monthly DMM credit for certain securities; and (x) revise the credits for SLPs. The proposed fees would be operative on March 1, 2014.

MOC and LOC Orders

Currently, the Exchange charges \$0.00055 per share per transaction

(charged to both sides) for all MOC and LOC orders if a member organization executes an average daily trading volume (“ADV”) of MOC and LOC activity on the Exchange in that month of at least 0.375% of consolidated ADV in NYSE-listed securities during the billing month (“NYSE CADV”). The Exchange proposes to add an alternative way to qualify for the \$0.00055 per share per transaction fee. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to charge \$0.00055 per share per transaction (charged to both sides) for all MOC and LOC orders if a member organization executes an ADV of MOC and LOC activity on the Exchange in that month of at least 0.300% of NYSE CADV plus an ADV of total close (MOC/LOC and executions at the close) activity on the Exchange in that month of at least 0.475% of NYSE CADV.

The Exchange also proposes to make a non-substantive change to the Price List to delete the language specifically excluding odd lots through January 31, 2014, as that language is no longer operative.³

MPL Orders

The Exchange currently charges \$0.0025 per share for all MPL orders that remove liquidity from the Exchange if the security is priced \$1.00 or more, for all participants, including Floor brokers and DMMs. The Exchange proposes to increase the fee for MPL orders that remove liquidity from the Exchange if the security is priced \$1.00 or more to \$0.0026 per share. The Exchange notes that this fee increase is consistent with the other proposed fee increases for taking liquidity, discussed below.⁴

Non-Floor Brokers

The Exchange proposes to establish a \$0.0019 per share credit per transaction for all non-Floor broker transactions that add liquidity to the Exchange if the member organization executes an ADV during the billing month of at least 1 million shares in Retail Price Improvement Orders (“RPIs”)⁵ and a

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 70997 (Dec. 5, 2013), 78 FR 75432 (Dec. 11, 2013) (SR-NYSE-2013-78).

⁴ MPL Orders are not eligible for any tiered or additional credits or reduced fees even if the MPL Orders contribute to a member organization qualifying for an additional credit. As such, the Exchange proposes to make conforming changes consistent with this approach. Where the MPL Order fee or credit does not differ from the current fee or credit, the Exchange has not proposed a change to the Price List.

⁵ “RPI” is defined in NYSE Rule 107C(a)(4) and consists of non-displayed interest in NYSE-listed securities that is priced better than the best protected bid or best protected offer, as such terms

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.