

to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>5</sup> designates February 15, 2017, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change (File No. SR-NYSE-2016-71).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>6</sup>

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2016-31104 Filed 12-23-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-79613; File No. SR-BOX-2016-50]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; BOX Options Exchange LLC; Notice of Designation of Longer Period for Commission Action on Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 5050 Series of Options Contracts Open for Trading To Provide for the Listing and Trading on the Exchange of RealDay™ Options Pursuant to a Pilot Program

December 20, 2016.

On October 26, 2016, BOX Options Exchange LLC (“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 provide for the listing and trading on the Exchange of RealDay™ Options pursuant to a pilot program. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on November 15, 2016.<sup>3</sup> The Commission has received one comment letter on the proposal.<sup>4</sup>

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act<sup>5</sup> provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the

self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day for this filing is December 30, 2016.

The Commission is extending the 45-day time period for Commission action on the proposed rule change. The Commission finds that it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider and take action on the Exchange’s proposed rule change.

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act<sup>6</sup> and for the reasons stated above, the Commission designates February 13, 2017, as the date by which the Commission should either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change (File No. SR-BOX-2016-50).

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

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2016-31105 Filed 12-23-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-79614; File No. SR-Phlx-2016-121]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ PHLX LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend Rule 3317 (Compliance With Regulation NMS Plan To Implement a Tick Size Pilot)

December 20, 2016.

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 December 13, 2016, NASDAQ PHLX LLC (“Phlx” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II 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 proposes to amend Rule 3317 (Compliance with Regulation NMS Plan to Implement a Tick Size Pilot) relating to the handling to certain Order Types in Test Group Three Pilot Securities in connection with the Regulation NMS Plan to Implement a Tick Size Pilot Program (“Plan” or “Pilot”).<sup>3</sup> Relatedly, the Exchange also proposes to delete Commentary .14, which addresses the current handling of those Order Types. Finally, Phlx proposes to add language to Rule 3317(d)(1) to clarify the treatment of orders in a Test Group Three Security entered through the RASH or FIX protocols.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at <http://nasdaqphlx.cchwallstreet.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 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

On September 7, 2016, the Exchange filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposed rule change (“Proposal”) to adopt paragraph (d) and Commentary .12 to Exchange Rule 3317 to describe changes to system functionality necessary to implement the Plan. The Exchange also proposed amendments to Rule 3317(a) and (c) to clarify how the Trade-at exception may be satisfied. The SEC published the Proposal in the **Federal Register** for notice and

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74892 (May 6, 2015), 80 FR 27513 (May 13, 2015) (“Approval Order”).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(31).

<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. 79258 (November 8, 2016), 81 FR 80125.

<sup>4</sup> See Letter from Edward T. Tilly, Chief Executive Officer, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated, to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission, dated December 6, 2016, available at <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-box-2016-50/box201650-1.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

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

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(31).

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

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

comment on September 20, 2016.<sup>4</sup> Phlx subsequently filed three Partial Amendments to clarify aspects of the Proposal. The Commission approved the Proposal, as amended, on October 7, 2016.<sup>5</sup>

In SR-Phlx-2016-92, Phlx had initially proposed a re-pricing functionality for Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities.<sup>6</sup> Phlx subsequently determined that it would not offer this re-pricing functionality for Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols in Group Three Pilot Securities. As part of Partial Amendment No. 2 to SR-Phlx-2016-92, Phlx proposed to delete the relevant language from Rule 3317 related to this re-pricing functionality.

In that amendment, Phlx noted that this change would only impact the treatment of Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only orders that are submitted through the OUCH and FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities, as these types of Orders that are currently submitted to Phlx through the RASH or FIX protocols are already subject to this re-pricing functionality and will remain subject to this functionality under the Pilot.

In the Amendment, Phlx further noted that its systems are currently programmed so that Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders and Post-Only Orders entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities may be adjusted repeatedly to reflect changes to the NBBO and/or the best price on the Phlx book. Phlx stated that it was re-programming its systems to remove this functionality for Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders and Post-

Only Orders entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities. In the Amendment, Phlx stated that it anticipated that this re-programming shall be completed no later than November 30, 2016. If it appeared that this functionality would remain operational by October 17, 2016, Phlx indicated that it would file a proposed rule change with the SEC and will provide notice to market participants sufficiently in advance of that date to provide effective notice. The rule change and the notice to market participants would describe the current operation of the Phlx systems in this regard, and the timing related to the re-programming.

On October 17, 2016, Phlx filed a proposal to extend the date by which it would complete the re-programming of its systems to eliminate the re-pricing functionality in Test Group Three Pilot Securities for Price to Comply Orders, Price to Display Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders that are entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols.<sup>7</sup> In that proposal, Phlx stated that it anticipated that this re-programming shall be complete on or before October 31, 2016.<sup>8</sup> As Phlx continued to re-program its systems to eliminate the re-pricing functionality in Test Group Three Pilot Securities for Price to Comply Orders, Price to Display Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders that are entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols, it extended the date by which the re-programming shall be complete to the current date of December 12, 2016.<sup>9</sup>

Phlx has now completed re-programming its systems to eliminate the re-pricing functionality in Test Group Three Pilot Securities for Price to Comply Orders, Price to Display Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders that are entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols. However, as a result of removing the re-pricing functionality, there are instances, due to

the different functionality of the OUCH and FLITE protocols in comparison to the other applicable Phlx protocols, where the behavior of certain Order Types entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities will differ from the behavior of those Order Types as set forth in Rule 3317; specifically, the behavior of Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols when the Order locks or crosses a Protected Quotation. Phlx is therefore amending Rule 3317 to clarify these differences. Although the changes made to Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders entered through OUCH and FLITE reflect the different functionality of the OUCH and FLITE protocols in comparison with the other Phlx protocols, the proposed changes treat Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders and Post-Only Orders entered through OUCH and FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Securities as consistently as possible with such orders entered through OUCH and FLITE in Control Group Securities, and Test Group One and Test Group Two Securities. These changes will adjust Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders entered through OUCH and FLITE when the Order has been ranked at a midpoint of the NBBO that then becomes impermissible due to changes in the NBBO.

#### Price To Comply Orders

Currently, Rule 3317(d)(2) states that a Price to Comply Order in a Test Group Pilot Security will operate as described in Rule 3301A(b)(1) except as provided under this paragraph. If a Price to Comply Order for a Test Group Three Pilot Security is partially executed upon entry and the remainder would lock a Protected Quotation of another market center, the unexecuted portion of the Order will be cancelled. If the Order is not executable against any previously posted orders on the Exchange Book, and the limit price of a buy (sell) Price to Comply Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security would lock or cross a Protected Quotation of another market center, the Order will display at one minimum price increment below (above) the Protected Quotation, and the Order will be ranked on the Exchange Book at the current midpoint of NBBO.

Phlx proposes to augment this provision to clarify the behavior of Price to Comply Orders entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities that lock or cross a Protected Quotation. Specifically, a

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 78835 (September 14, 2016), 81 FR 64552 (September 20, 2016) (SR-Phlx-2016-92).

<sup>5</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79074 (October 7, 2016) (SR-Phlx-2016-92).

<sup>6</sup> As originally proposed, Rule 3317(d)(2) stated that Price to Comply Orders in a Test Group Three Pilot Security will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO until such time as the Price to Comply Order is able to be ranked and displayed at its original entered limit price. Rule 3317(d)(3) stated that, if market conditions allow, a Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO up (down) to the Order's limit price. Rule 3317(d)(4) stated that, if market conditions allow, the Post-Only Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO or the best price on the Phlx Book, as applicable until such time as the Post-Only Order is able to be ranked and displayed at its original entered limit price.

<sup>7</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79156 (October 25, 2016) (SR-Phlx-2016-106).

Subsequent to the approval of SR-Phlx-2016-92, Phlx became aware that this re-pricing functionality also applies to Price to Display Orders that are entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Securities, and amended Commentary .14 to indicate that Price to Display Orders will be treated in the same manner as Price to Comply Orders under the re-pricing functionality. *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> See Securities Exchange Release Nos. 79261 (November 8, 2016), 81 FR 80134 (November 15, 2016) (SR-Phlx-2016-110) (extending current re-pricing functionality to November 14, 2016); 79407 (November 28, 2016), 81 FR 87089 (December 2, 2016) (SR-Phlx-2016-114) (extending current re-pricing functionality to December 12, 2016).

Price to Comply Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security entered through OUCH or FLITE may be adjusted in the following manner after initial entry and posting to the Phlx Book.

If entered at a price that locked a Protected Quotation, and if the NBBO changes such that its price will no longer lock a Protected Quotation, the Price to Comply Order will be adjusted to rank and display at its original entered limit price.<sup>10</sup>

If entered at a price that crossed a Protected Quotation, and if the NBBO changes such that it can be ranked at the price of the Protected Quotation it crossed, the Price to Comply Order, based on the participant's choice, may either be (i) cancelled or (ii) adjusted to rank at the price of the Protected Quotation it crossed upon entry with its displayed price remaining unchanged.

If, after being posted on the Phlx Book, the non-displayed price of a Price to Comply Order becomes locked or crossed by a Protected Quotation due to a change in the NBBO, or if the Price to Comply Order is at an impermissible price under Regulation NMS or the Plan and it cannot otherwise be adjusted as above, the Price to Comply Order will be cancelled.<sup>11</sup>

#### Non-Displayed Orders

Currently, Rule 3317(d)(3) states that a Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Pilot Security will operate as described in Rule 3301A(b)(3) except as provided under this paragraph. A resting Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Three Pilot security cannot execute at the price of a Protected Quotation of another market center unless the incoming Order otherwise qualifies for an exception to the Trade-at prohibition provided under Rule 3317(c)(3)(D). If the limit price of a buy (sell) Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security would lock or cross a Protected Quotation of another market center, the Order will be ranked on the

<sup>10</sup> Phlx notes that a Price to Comply Order will always be adjusted in this scenario, regardless of its port setting.

<sup>11</sup> For example, if the National Best Bid is \$10.00 and the National Best Offer is \$10.10, and a Price to Comply Order to buy at \$10.15 is entered, the Price to Comply Order will be displayed at \$10.05 and ranked at \$10.075. If the National Best Offer then changes to \$10.15, the Price to Comply Order will be adjusted to rank at \$10.10, and will remain displayed at \$10.05. If the National Best Offer subsequently changes to \$10.10, the Price to Comply Order will be cancelled.

Phlx notes that a Price to Comply Order, Non-Displayed Order, or Post-Only Order entered through OUCH or FLITE in either a Control Group Security, a Test Group One Pilot Security or a Test Group Two Pilot Security would only cancel if the resting order is crossed (not locked) by a Protected Quotation due to a change in the NBBO.

Exchange Book at either one minimum price increment below (above) the National Best Offer (National Best Bid) or at the midpoint of the NBBO, whichever is higher (lower). For a Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security entered through RASH or FIX, if after being posted to the Exchange Book, the NBBO changes so that the Non-Displayed Order would no longer be executable at its posted price due to the requirements of Regulation NMS or the Plan, the Non-Displayed Order will be repriced to a price that is at either one minimum price increment below (above) the National Best Offer (National Best Bid) or at the midpoint of the NBBO, whichever is higher (lower) and will receive a new timestamp. For a Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security entered through OUCH or FLITE, if after such a Non-Displayed Order is posted to the Exchange Book, the NBBO changes so that the Non-Displayed Order would no longer be executable at its posted price due to the requirements of Regulation NMS or the Plan, the Non-Displayed Order will be cancelled back to the Participant.

Phlx proposes to amend this provision to clarify the behavior of Non-Displayed Orders entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities that lock or cross a Protected Quotation. Specifically, a Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security entered through OUCH or FLITE may be adjusted in the following manner after initial entry and posting to the Phlx Book.

If entered at a price that locked a Protected Quotation, and if the NBBO changes such that its price would no longer lock a Protected Quotation, the Non-Displayed Order will be adjusted to rank at its original entered limit price.<sup>12</sup>

If entered at a price that crossed a Protected Quotation, and if the NBBO changes such that it can be ranked at the price of the Protected Quotation it crossed, the Order, based on the Participant's choice, may either be (i) cancelled or (ii) adjusted to rank at the price of the Protected Quotation it crossed.<sup>13</sup>

If entered at a price that locked or crossed a Protected Quotation, and if the NBBO changes such that it cannot be

<sup>12</sup> Phlx notes that a Non-Displayed Order will always be adjusted in this scenario, regardless of its port setting.

<sup>13</sup> For example, if the National Best Bid is \$10.00 and the National Best Offer is \$10.10, and a Non-Displayed Order to buy at \$10.15 is entered, the Non-Displayed Order will be ranked at \$10.05. If the National Best Offer then changes to \$10.15, the Non-Displayed Order may either be adjusted to rank at \$10.10, or may be cancelled back to the Participant.

ranked at the price of the Protected Quotation it locked or crossed but can be ranked closer to its original limit price, the Non-Displayed Order will be adjusted to the new midpoint of the NBBO.<sup>14</sup>

If, after being posted on the Phlx Book, the Non-Displayed Order becomes locked or crossed by a Protected Quotation due to a change in the NBBO, or if the Non-Displayed Order is at an impermissible price under Regulation NMS or the Plan and it cannot otherwise be adjusted as above, the Non-Displayed Order will be cancelled.<sup>15</sup>

#### Post-Only Orders

Currently, Rule 3317(d)(4) states that a Post-Only Order in a Test Group Pilot Security will operate as described in Rule 3301A(b)(4) except as provided under this paragraph. For orders that are not attributable, if the limit price of a buy (sell) Post-Only Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security would lock or cross a Protected Quotation of another market center, the Order will display at one minimum price increment below (above) the Protected Quotation, and the Order will be ranked on the Exchange Book at the current midpoint of the NBBO.

Phlx proposes to augment this provision to clarify the behavior of Post-Only Orders entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities that lock or cross a Protected Quotation. Specifically, a Non-Attributable Post-Only Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security entered through OUCH or FLITE may be adjusted in the following manner after initial entry and posting to the Phlx Book.

If entered at a price that locked a Protected Quotation, and if the NBBO changes such that its price will no longer lock a Protected Quotation, the Post-Only Order will be adjusted to rank

<sup>14</sup> For example, if the National Best Bid is \$10.00 and the National Best Offer is \$10.10, and a Non-Displayed Order to buy at \$10.10 is entered, the Non-Displayed Order will be ranked at \$10.05. If the National Best Bid then changes to \$10.05, the price of the Non-Displayed Order will be adjusted to \$10.075.

Phlx notes that a Non-Displayed Order entered through OUCH or FLITE in either a Control Group Security, a Test Group One Pilot Security or a Test Group Two Pilot Security would be ranked at the locking price upon entry.

<sup>15</sup> For example, if the National Best Bid is \$10.00 and the National Best Offer is \$10.10, and a Non-Displayed Order to buy at \$10.10 is entered, the Non-Displayed Order will be ranked at \$10.05. If the National Best Offer then changes to \$10.05, the Non-Displayed Order will be cancelled back to the Participant.

and display at its original entered limit price.<sup>16</sup>

If entered at a price that crossed a Protected Quotation, and if the NBBO changes such that it can be ranked at the price of the Protected Quotation it crossed, the Post-Only Order, based on the Participant's choice, may either be (i) cancelled or (ii) adjusted to rank at the price of the Protected Quotation it crossed upon entry with its displayed price remaining unchanged.

If, after being posted on the Phlx Book, the non-displayed price of a resting Post-Only Order becomes locked or crossed by a Protected Quotation due to a change in the NBBO, or if the Post-Only Order is at an impermissible price under Regulation NMS or the Plan and it cannot otherwise be adjusted as above, the Post-Only Order will be cancelled.

#### Commentary .14

In removing the current re-pricing functionality, Commentary .014 [sic], which addresses the behavior of current treatment of Price to Comply Orders, Price to Display Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders that are entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols in Test Group Three Pilot Securities, is no longer necessary.<sup>17</sup> The Exchange therefore proposes to delete this Commentary from the Rule.

Finally, Phlx proposes to add language to Rule 3317(d)(1) to clarify

<sup>16</sup> Phlx notes that a Post-Only Order will always be adjusted in this scenario, regardless of its port setting.

<sup>17</sup> Under Commentary .14, the current treatment of Price to Comply Orders, Price to Display Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders that are entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols in Test Group Three securities is as follows:

Until December 12, 2016, the treatment of Price to Comply Orders, Price to Display Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders that are entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols in Test Group Three securities shall be as follows:

Following entry, and if market conditions allow, a Price to Comply Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO until such time as the Price to Comply Order is able to be ranked and displayed at its original entered limit price.

Following entry, and if market conditions allow, a Price to Display Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO until such time as the Price to Display Order is able to be ranked and displayed at its original entered limit price.

Following entry, and if market conditions allow, a Non-Displayed Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO up (down) to the Order's limit price.

Following entry, and if market conditions allow, the Post-Only Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO or the best price on the Exchange Book, as applicable until such time as the Post-Only Order is able to be ranked and displayed at its original entered limit price.

the treatment of orders in a Test Group Three Security entered through the RASH or FIX protocols. Specifically, subject to the provisions set forth in the remainder of Rule 3317(d), if the entered limit price of an Order in a Test Group Three Pilot Security, entered through RASH or FIX, locked or crossed a Protected Quotation and the NBBO changes so that the Order can be ranked closer to its original entered limit price, the price of the Order will be adjusted repeatedly in accordance with changes to the NBBO. Phlx is proposing to make this change to clarify the current treatment of orders in Test Group Three Pilot Securities entered through RASH or FIX.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>18</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>19</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act because it clarifies the changes the Exchange is making to the handling of certain Order Types necessary to implement the requirements of the Plan on its System and, in the case of the changes of Rule 3317(d)(1), to clarify the current treatment of orders in Test Group Three Pilot Securities entered through RASH or FIX.

As a result of removing the current re-pricing functionality that applies to certain Order Types in Test Group Three Securities entered through the OUCH and FLITE protocols, and due to the different functionality of the OUCH and FLITE protocols in comparison to the other applicable Phlx protocols, these Order Types will behave differently than is currently set forth in Rule 3317 when entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols in certain instances. As noted above, these changes will adjust Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders entered through OUCH and FLITE when the Order has been ranked at a midpoint of the NBBO that then becomes impermissible due to changes in the NBBO. These changes also will adjust Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders entered through OUCH and FLITE in scenarios where the

subsequent movement of the NBBO implicates the Trade-at prohibition with respect to the resting order.

By clarifying the behavior of certain Order Types in Test Group Three Pilot Securities entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols, the proposal will help allow market participants to continue to trade NMS Stocks, within quoting and trading requirements that are in compliance with the Plan, with certainty on how certain orders and trading interests would be treated. This, in turn, will help encourage market participants to continue to provide liquidity in the marketplace.

More generally, Phlx also notes that the Plan, which was approved by the Commission pursuant to an order issued by the Commission in reliance on Section 11A of the Act,<sup>20</sup> provides the Exchange authority to establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to comply with applicable quoting and trading requirements specified in the Plan. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the authority granted to it by the Plan to establish specifications and procedures for the implementation and operation of the Plan that are consistent with the provisions of the Plan. Likewise, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change provides interpretations of the Plan that are consistent with the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of the Act, in particular.

Finally, Phlx believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act because the proposed functionality will more closely align the handling of Price to Comply Orders, Non-Displayed Orders, and Post-Only Orders that are entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols for Test Group Three Pilot Securities with the handling of such Orders entered through the OUCH or FLITE protocols for Control Group, Test Group One and Test Group Two Securities than the current functionality in place for these Orders.

#### *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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed changes are being made to establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to comply with the trading and quoting requirements specified in the Plan, of which other

<sup>18</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>19</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78k-1.

equities exchanges are also Participants. Other competing national securities exchanges are subject to the same trading and quoting requirements specified in the Plan, and must take the same steps that the Exchange has to conform its existing rules to the requirements of the Plan. Therefore, the proposed changes would not impose any burden on competition, while providing certainty of treatment and execution of trading interests on the Exchange to market participants in NMS Stocks that are acting in compliance with the requirements specified in the Plan.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

Because the foregoing 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 for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>21</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>22</sup>

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)<sup>23</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>24</sup> the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. In this filing, the Exchange has asked that the Commission waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing.

The Exchange notes the proposed rule is intended to clarify the differences in the handling of certain orders entered into the system by different protocols. The Exchange notes that orders will be treated as consistently as possible across the Test Groups and the Control Group while complying with each grouping's varied quoting and trading requirements. Additionally, the Exchange proposed to remove

Commentary .14 because it is no longer necessary.

The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because the proposal clarifies the Exchange's rules and provides transparency to members with regards to the handling of certain orders entered via OUCH and FLITE as well as RASH or FIX protocols for locked or crossed orders in Test Group Three Pilot Securities. The Commission notes that the Exchange proposed to remove the functionality described in Commentary .14 and make the necessary corresponding systems changes in Partial Amendment No. 2 to Phlx-2016-92, which the Commission approved.<sup>25</sup> The Exchange notes that it was able to implement the systems changes and that they became fully operational on the December 14, 2016. Therefore, the Commission hereby waives the 30-day operative delay and designates the proposed rule change to be operative on December 14, 2016.<sup>26</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) Necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule 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 (<http://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-Phlx-2016-121 on the subject line.

*Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities

and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2016-121. 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 Room, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. 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-Phlx-2016-121 and should be submitted on or before January 17, 2017.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>27</sup>

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**  
*Assistant Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2016-31106 Filed 12-23-16; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

<sup>21</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>22</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

<sup>25</sup> See *supra* note 5

<sup>26</sup> For purposes only of waiving the operative delay for this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

<sup>27</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).