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Documents submitted in adjudicatory proceedings will appear in the NRC's electronic hearing docket which is available to the public at <https://adams.nrc.gov/ehd>, unless excluded pursuant to an order of the Commission or the presiding officer. If you do not have an NRC-issued digital ID certificate as described in this notice, click cancel when the link requests certificates and you will be automatically directed to the NRC's electronic hearing dockets where you will be able to access any publicly available documents in a particular hearing docket. Participants are requested not to include personal privacy information, such as social security numbers, home addresses, or personal phone numbers in their filings, unless an NRC regulation or other law requires submission of such information. For example, in some instances, individuals provide home addresses in order to demonstrate

proximity to a facility or site. With respect to copyrighted works, except for limited excerpts that serve the purpose of the adjudicatory filings and would constitute a Fair Use application, participants are requested not to include copyrighted materials in their submission.

The Commission will issue a notice or order granting or denying a hearing request or intervention petition, designating the issues for any hearing that will be held and designating the Presiding Officer. A notice granting a hearing will be published in the **Federal Register** and served on the parties to the hearing.

For further details with respect to this application, see the application dated December 11, 2018.

#### **VI. Access to Sensitive Unclassified Non-Safeguards Information for Contention Preparation**

Any person who desires access to proprietary, confidential commercial information that has been redacted from the application should contact the applicant by telephoning Jeff Bartelme, Licensing Manager, at 608-210-1735, for the purpose of negotiating a confidentiality agreement or a proposed protective order with the applicant. If no agreement can be reached, persons who desire access to this information may file a motion with the Secretary and addressed to the Commission that requests the issuance of a protective order.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 14th day of February 2019.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

#### **Steven T. Lynch,**

*Project Manager, Research and Test Reactors Licensing Branch, Division of Licensing Projects, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. 2019-02788 Filed 2-19-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7590-01-P**

#### **OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**

#### **President's Commission on White House Fellowships Advisory Committee: Closed Meeting**

**AGENCY:** President's Commission on White House Fellowships, Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The President's Commission on White House Fellowships (PCWHF) was established by an Executive Order in 1964. The PCWHF is an advisory committee composed of Special

Government Employees appointed by the President.

The meeting is closed.

**Name of Committee:** President's Commission on White House Fellowships Mid-Year Meeting.

**Date:** March 13-15, 2019.

**Time:** 8:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

**Place:** Eisenhower Executive Office Building, 1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20502.

**Agenda:** The Commission holds a mid-year meeting to talk with current Fellows on how their placements are going and discuss preparation for future events.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Elizabeth D. Pinkerton, 712 Jackson Place NW, Washington, DC 20503, Phone: 202-395-4522.

President's Commission on White House Fellowships.

**Alexys Stanley,**

*Regulatory Affairs Analyst.*

[FR Doc. 2019-02726 Filed 2-19-19; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6325-44-P**

#### **SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**[Release No. 34-85124; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2019-006]**

#### **Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Options Regulatory Fee**

February 13, 2019.

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 1, 2019, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the 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 revise The Nasdaq Options Market LLC's Rules ("NOM") at Options 7, Section 5 to amend the Nasdaq Options Regulatory Fee or "ORF."

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at

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

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

<http://nasdaq.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 the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

#### 1. Purpose

Currently, Nasdaq assesses an ORF of \$0.0008 per contract side. The Exchange proposes to increase this ORF to \$0.0020 per contract side as of February 1, 2019. In light of recent market volumes, the Exchange is proposing to increase the amount of ORF that will be collected by the Exchange. The proposal would allow the Exchange to increase the per contract amount of ORF in order to offset the Exchange anticipated regulatory costs. The Exchange's proposed change to the ORF should balance the Exchange's regulatory revenue against the anticipated regulatory costs. The Exchange also proposes to delete obsolete language in the rule text as described herein.

#### Collection of ORF

Currently, NOM assesses its ORF for each customer option transaction that is either: (1) Executed by a Participant on NOM; or (2) cleared by a NOM Participant at The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") in the customer range,<sup>3</sup> even if the transaction was executed by a non-member of NOM, regardless of the exchange on which the transaction occurs.<sup>4</sup> If the OCC clearing member is a NOM Participant, ORF is assessed and collected on all cleared customer contracts (after adjustment for

CMTA<sup>5</sup>); and (2) if the OCC clearing member is not a NOM Participant, ORF is collected only on the cleared customer contracts executed at NOM, taking into account any CMTA instructions which may result in collecting the ORF from a non-member.

By way of example, if Broker A, a NOM Participant, routes a customer order to CBOE and the transaction executes on CBOE and clears in Broker A's OCC Clearing account, ORF will be collected by NOM from Broker A's clearing account at OCC via direct debit. While this transaction was executed on a market other than NOM, it was cleared by a NOM Participant in the member's OCC clearing account in the customer range, therefore there is a regulatory nexus between NOM and the transaction. If Broker A was not a NOM Participant, then no ORF should be assessed and collected because there is no nexus; the transaction did not execute on NOM nor was it cleared by a NOM Participant.

In the case where a Participant both executes a transaction and clears the transaction, the ORF is assessed to and collected from that Participant. In the case where a Participant executes a transaction and a different member clears the transaction, the ORF is assessed to and collected from the Participant who clears the transaction and not the Participant who executes the transaction. In the case where a non-member executes a transaction at an away market and a Participant clears the transaction, the ORF is assessed to and collected from the Participant who clears the transaction. In the case where a Participant executes a transaction on NOM and a non-member clears the transaction, the ORF is assessed to the Participant that executed the transaction on NOM and collected from the non-member who cleared the transaction. In the case where a Participant executes a transaction at an away market and a non-member clears the transaction, the ORF is not assessed to the Participant who executed the transaction or collected from the non-member who cleared the transaction because the Exchange does not have access to the data to make absolutely certain that ORF should apply. Further, the data does not allow the Exchange to identify the Participant executing the trade at an away market.

#### ORF Revenue and Monitoring of ORF

The Exchange monitors the amount of revenue collected from the ORF to

ensure that it, in combination with other regulatory fees and fines, does not exceed regulatory costs. In determining whether an expense is considered a regulatory cost, the Exchange reviews all costs and makes determinations if there is a nexus between the expense and a regulatory function. The Exchange notes that fines collected by the Exchange in connection with a disciplinary matter offset ORF.

The ORF is designed to recover a material portion of the costs to the Exchange of the supervision and regulation of its members, including performing routine surveillances, investigations, examinations, financial monitoring, and policy, rulemaking, interpretive, and enforcement activities.

The Exchange believes that revenue generated from the ORF, when combined with all of the Exchange's other regulatory fees, will cover a material portion, but not all, of the Exchange's regulatory costs. The Exchange will continue to monitor the amount of revenue collected from the ORF to ensure that it, in combination with its other regulatory fees and fines, does not exceed regulatory costs. If the Exchange determines regulatory revenues exceed regulatory costs, the Exchange will adjust the ORF by submitting a fee change filing to the Commission.

#### Proposal

The Exchange proposes to increase the ORF from \$0.0008 to \$0.0020 per contract side as of February 1, 2019. In light of recent market volumes, the Exchange is proposing to increase the amount of ORF that will be collected by the Exchange. The proposal would allow the Exchange to increase the per contract amount of ORF in order to offset the Exchange anticipated regulatory costs. The Exchange proposes to add the following rule text to Options 7, Section 5, "NOM Participants will be assessed an Options Regulatory Fee of \$0.0020 per contract side as of February 1, 2019."

The Exchange regularly reviews its ORF to ensure that the ORF, in combination with its other regulatory fees and fines, does not exceed regulatory costs. The Exchange believes this adjustment will permit the Exchange to cover a material portion of its regulatory costs, while not exceeding regulatory costs.

The Exchange notified Participants via an Options Trader Alert of the proposed change to the ORF thirty (30) calendar days prior to the proposed operative date, February 1, 2019.<sup>6</sup> The

<sup>3</sup> Participants must record the appropriate account origin code on all orders at the time of entry in order. The Exchange represents that it has surveillances in place to verify that members mark orders with the correct account origin code.

<sup>4</sup> The Exchange uses reports from OCC when assessing and collecting the ORF.

<sup>5</sup> CMTA or Clearing Member Trade Assignment is a form of "give-up" whereby the position will be assigned to a specific clearing firm at OCC.

<sup>6</sup> See Options Trader Alert #2018-46.

Exchange believes that the prior notification market participants will ensure market participants are prepared to configure their systems to account properly for the ORF.

Finally, the Exchange proposes to remove the following rule text from Options 7, Section 5, "NOM Participants are assessed an Options Regulatory Fee of \$0.0027 per contract side. NOM Participants will be assessed an Options Regulatory Fee of \$0.0008 per contract side as of August 1, 2018". This text is obsolete as it references prior ORF rates which were effective in the past.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>7</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>8</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using its facility and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange believes that increasing the ORF from \$0.0008 to \$0.0020 per contract side as of February 1, 2019 is reasonable because with this increase, the Exchange would recoup additional regulatory revenue to offset anticipated regulatory costs. The Exchange believes that the proposed adjustments noted herein will serve to balance the Exchange's regulatory revenue against the anticipated regulatory costs.

The Exchange believes that increasing the ORF from \$0.0008 to \$0.0020 per contract side as of February 1, 2019 is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because assessing the ORF to each Participant for options transactions cleared by OCC in the customer range where the execution occurs on another exchange and is cleared by a NOM Participant is an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and issuers and other persons using its facilities. OCC collects the ORF on behalf of NOM from Exchange clearing members for all customer transactions they clear or from non-members for all customer transactions they clear that were executed on NOM. The Exchange believes the ORF ensures fairness by assessing fees to Participants based on the amount of customer options business they conduct. Regulating customer trading activity is much more labor intensive and requires

greater expenditure of human and technical resources than regulating non-customer trading activity, which tends to be more automated and less labor-intensive. As a result, the costs associated with administering the customer component of the Exchange's overall regulatory program are materially higher than the costs associated with administering the non-customer component (e.g., Participant proprietary transactions) of its regulatory program.

The ORF is designed to recover a material portion of the costs of supervising and regulating Participants' customer options business including performing routine surveillances, investigations, examinations, financial monitoring, and policy, rulemaking, interpretive, and enforcement activities. The Exchange will monitor the amount of revenue collected from the ORF to ensure that it, in combination with its other regulatory fees and fines, does not exceed the Exchange's total regulatory costs. The Exchange has designed the ORF to generate revenues that, when combined with all of the Exchange's other regulatory fees, will be less than or equal to the Exchange's regulatory costs, which is consistent with the Commission's view that regulatory fees be used for regulatory purposes and not to support the Exchange's business side.

### 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. This proposal does not create an unnecessary or inappropriate intra-market burden on competition because the ORF applies to all customer activity, thereby raising regulatory revenue to offset regulatory expenses. It also supplements the regulatory revenue derived from non-customer activity. This proposal does not create an unnecessary or inappropriate inter-market burden on competition because it is a regulatory fee that supports regulation in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange is obligated to ensure that the amount of regulatory revenue collected from the ORF, in combination with its other regulatory fees and fines, does not exceed regulatory costs.

### 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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.<sup>9</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 No. SR-NASDAQ-2019-006 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 No. SR-NASDAQ-2019-006. 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 (<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 website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE,

<sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-NASDAQ-2019-006, and should be submitted on or before March 13, 2019.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>10</sup>

**Eduardo A. Aleman,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. 2019-02742 Filed 2-19-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release Nos. 33-10604; 34-85118; IA-5111; IC-33373]

### Adjustments to Civil Monetary Penalty Amounts

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of annual inflation adjustment of civil monetary penalties.

**SUMMARY:** The Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) is publishing this notice pursuant to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (the “2015 Act”). This Act requires all agencies to annually adjust for inflation the civil monetary penalties that can be imposed under the statutes administered by the agency and publish the adjusted amounts in the **Federal Register**. This notice sets forth the annual inflation adjustment of the maximum amount of civil monetary penalties (“CMPs”) administered by the Commission under the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”), the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, and certain penalties under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. These amounts are effective beginning on January 15, 2019, and will apply to all penalties imposed after that date for violations of the aforementioned statutes that occurred after November 2, 2015.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Stephen M. Ng, Senior Special Counsel,

Office of the General Counsel, at (202) 551-7957, or Hannah W. Riedel, Senior Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, at (202) 551-7918.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

This notice is being published pursuant to the 2015 Act,<sup>1</sup> which amended the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (the “Inflation Adjustment Act”).<sup>2</sup> The Inflation Adjustment Act previously had been amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (the “DCIA”)<sup>3</sup> to require that each federal agency adopt regulations at least once every four years that adjust for inflation the CMPs that can be imposed under the statutes administered by the agency. Pursuant to this requirement, the Commission previously adopted regulations in 1996, 2001, 2005, 2009, and 2013 to adjust the maximum amount of the CMPs that could be imposed under the statutes the Commission administers.<sup>4</sup>

The 2015 Act replaces the inflation adjustment formula prescribed in the DCIA with a new formula for calculating the inflation-adjusted amount of CMPs. The 2015 Act requires that agencies use this new formula to re-calculate the inflation-adjusted amounts of the penalties they administer on an annual basis and publish these new amounts in the **Federal Register** by January 15 of each year.<sup>5</sup> The Commission previously published the first annual adjustment required by the 2015 Act on January 6, 2017 (the “2017 Adjustment”).<sup>6</sup> As part of the 2017 Adjustment, the Commission promulgated 17 CFR

<sup>1</sup> Public Law 114-74 Sec. 701, 129 Stat. 599-601 (Nov. 2, 2015), codified at 28 U.S.C. 2461 note.

<sup>2</sup> Public Law 101-410, 104 Stat. 890-892 (1990), codified at 28 U.S.C. 2461 note.

<sup>3</sup> Public Law 104-134, Title III, § 31001(s)(1), 110 Stat. 1321-373 (1996), codified at 28 U.S.C. 2461 note.

<sup>4</sup> See Release Nos. 33-7361, 34-37912, IA-1596, IC-22310, dated November 1, 1996 (effective December 9, 1996), previously found at 17 CFR 201.1001 and Table I to Subpart E of Part 201; Release Nos. 33-7946, 34-43897, IA-1921, IC-24846, dated January 31, 2001 (effective February 2, 2001), previously found at 17 CFR 201.1002 and Table II to Subpart E of Part 201; Release Nos. 33-8530, 34-51136, IA-2348, IC-26748, dated February 9, 2005 (effective February 14, 2005), previously found at 17 CFR 201.1003 and Table III to Subpart E of Part 201; Release Nos. 33-9009, 34-59449, IA-2845, IC-28635, dated February 25, 2009 (effective March 3, 2009), previously found at 17 CFR 201.1004 and Table IV to Subpart E of Part 201; and Release Nos. 33-9387, 34-68994, IA-3557, IC-30408, dated February 27, 2013 (effective March 5, 2013), previously found at 17 CFR 201.1005 and Table V to Subpart E of Part 201. The penalty amounts contained in these releases have now been consolidated into Table I to 17 CFR 201.1001.

<sup>5</sup> 28 U.S.C. 2461 note Sec. 4.

<sup>6</sup> Release Nos. 33-10276; 34-79749; IA-4599; IC-32414 (effective Jan. 18, 2017).

201.1001(a) and Table I to Subsection 1001, which lists the penalty amounts for all violations that occurred on or before November 2, 2015. For violations occurring after November 2, 2015, Subsection 1001(b) provides that the applicable penalty amounts will be adjusted annually based on the formula set forth in the 2015 Act. Subsection 1001(b) further provides that these adjusted amounts will be published in the **Federal Register** and on the Commission’s website. The Commission subsequently published the next annual adjustment on January 8, 2018 (the “2018 Adjustment”).<sup>7</sup>

A CMP is defined in relevant part as any penalty, fine, or other sanction that: (1) Is for a specific amount, or has a maximum amount, as provided by federal law; and (2) is assessed or enforced by an agency in an administrative proceeding or by a federal court pursuant to federal law.<sup>8</sup> This definition applies to the monetary penalty provisions contained in four statutes administered by the Commission: The Securities Act, the Exchange Act, the Investment Company Act, and the Investment Advisers Act. In addition, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act provides the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (the “PCAOB”) authority to levy civil monetary penalties in its disciplinary proceedings pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 7215(c)(4)(D).<sup>9</sup> The definition of a CMP in the Inflation Adjustment Act encompasses such civil monetary penalties.<sup>10</sup>

##### II. Adjusting the Commission’s Penalty Amounts for Inflation

This notice sets forth the annual inflation adjustment required by the 2015 Act for all CMPs under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, the Investment Company Act, and the Investment Advisers Act, and certain civil monetary penalties under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Pursuant to the 2015 Act, the penalty amounts in the 2018 Adjustment are adjusted for inflation by increasing them

<sup>7</sup> Release Nos. 33-10451; 34-82455; IA-4842; IC-32963 (effective Jan. 15, 2018).

<sup>8</sup> 28 U.S.C. 2461 note Sec. 3(2).

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 7215(c)(4)(D).

<sup>10</sup> The Commission may by order affirm, modify, remand, or set aside sanctions, including civil monetary penalties, imposed by the PCAOB. See Section 107(c) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, 15 U.S.C. 7217. The Commission may enforce such orders in federal district court pursuant to Section 21(e) of the Exchange Act. As a result, penalties assessed by the PCAOB in its disciplinary proceedings are penalties “enforced” by the Commission for purposes of the Inflation Adjustment Act. See *Adjustments to Civil Monetary Penalty Amounts*, Release No. 33-8530 (Feb. 4, 2005) [70 FR 7606 (Feb. 14, 2005)].

<sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).