

Agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: December 8, 2021.

Suzanne H. Plimpton,

Reports Clearance Officer, National Science Foundation.

[FR Doc. 2021-26935 Filed 12-10-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7555-01-P

POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. CP2022-30; Order No. 6053]

Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreements With Foreign Postal Operators

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Commission is acknowledging a recent filing by the Postal Service that it has entered into the Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreement with Foreign Postal Operators (FPOs). This notice informs the public of the filing, invites public comment, and takes other administrative steps.

DATES: *Comments are due:* December 21, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>. Those who cannot submit comments electronically should contact the person identified in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by telephone for advice on filing alternatives.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David A. Trissell, General Counsel, at 202-789-6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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I. Introduction

On December 3, 2021, the Postal Service filed a notice with the

Commission pursuant to 39 CFR 3035.105 and Order No. 546,¹ giving notice that it has entered into an Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreement with a foreign postal operator (FPO). The Notice concerns the inbound portions of the Competitive multi-product agreement entered into by the Postal Service and an FPO, referred to as "FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1." Notice at 1. The Postal Service seeks to include FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1 within the Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreement with Foreign Postal Operators 1 (MC2010-34) product. *Id.*

The Postal Service asserts that FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1 "is functionally equivalent to the baseline agreement filed in Docket No. MC2010-34 because the terms of this agreement are similar in scope and purpose to the terms of the CP2010-95 Agreement." *Id.* at 3. Concurrent with the Notice, the Postal Service filed supporting financial documentation and the following documents:

- Attachment 1—an application for non-public treatment;
- Attachment 2—the FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1;
- Attachment 3—Governors' Decision No. 19-1;
- Attachment 4—a certified statement required by 39 CFR 3035.105(c)(2). *Id.* at 5.

The Postal Service states it intends for FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1 to take effect on January 1, 2022. *Id.* at 1. The Postal Service notes that FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1 provides rates for inbound tracked packets. *Id.* at 6.

The Postal Service states that FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1 is in compliance with 39 U.S.C. 3633 and is functionally equivalent to the inbound Competitive portions of the CP2010-95 agreement, which was included in the Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 product (MC2010-34). *Id.* at 9. For these reasons, the Postal Service avers that FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1 should be added to the Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 product. *Id.*

II. Commission Action

The Commission establishes Docket No. CP2022-30 to consider the Notice.

¹ Notice of United States Postal Service of Filing Functionally Equivalent Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreement with Foreign Postal Operator—FY22-1, December 3, 2021 (Notice), Docket Nos. MC2010-34 and CP2010-95, Order Adding Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Service Operators 1 to the Competitive Product List and Approving Included Agreement, September 29, 2010 (Order No. 546).

Interested persons may submit comments on whether the FPO-USPS Agreement FY22-1 is consistent with 39 U.S.C. 3633 and 39 CFR 3035.105 and whether it is functionally equivalent to the inbound Competitive portions of the Docket No. CP2010-95 agreement, which was included in the Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreements with Foreign Postal Operators 1 product (MC2010-34). Comments are due by December 21, 2021.

The Notice and related filings are available on the Commission's website (<http://www.prc.gov>). The Commission encourages interested persons to review the Notice for further details.

The Commission appoints Kenneth R. Moeller to serve as Public Representative in this proceeding.

III. Ordering Paragraphs

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. CP2022-30 for consideration of the matters raised by the Notice of United States Postal Service of Filing Functionally Equivalent Inbound Competitive Multi-Service Agreement with Foreign Postal Operator—FY22-1, filed on December 3, 2021.

2. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 505, Kenneth R. Moeller is appointed to serve as an officer of the Commission (Public Representative) to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

3. Comments by interested persons are due by December 21, 2021.

4. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this order in the **Federal Register**.

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-26845 Filed 12-10-21; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-93728; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2021-095]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions

December 7, 2021.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),² and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,³

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

notice is hereby given that on December 1, 2021, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (“Nasdaq” 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 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 The Nasdaq Options Market LLC’s (“NOM”) Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions.

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated the amendments become operative on December 1, 2021.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at <https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/nasdaq/rules>, 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

NOM proposes to amend its Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions. Specifically, NOM proposes to amend the way an Exchange Participant indicates its participation in the Affiliated Entity Program. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend the description of “Affiliated Entity” within Options 7, Section 1, General Provisions. Currently, the term “Affiliated Entity” is described as, a relationship between an Appointed MM and an Appointed OFP for purposes of aggregating eligible volume for pricing in Options 7, Sections 2(1) and 2(6) for which a volume threshold or volume percentage is required to qualify for higher rebates or lower

fees. NOM Market Makers and OFPs are required to send an email to the Exchange to appoint their counterpart at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to qualify for the next month. The Exchange will acknowledge receipt of the emails and specify the date the Affiliated Entity is eligible for applicable pricing in Options 7, Sections 2(1) and 2(6). Each Affiliated Entity relationship will commence on the 1st of a month and may not be terminated prior to the end of any month. An Affiliated Entity Relationship will terminate after a one (1) year period, unless either party terminates earlier in writing by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Affiliated Entity relationships must be renewed annually. Participants under Common Ownership may not qualify as a counterparty comprising an Affiliated Entity. Each Participant may qualify for only one (1) Affiliated Entity relationship at any given time.

Today, Participants are required to annually renew their Affiliate Entity relationship at the end of one year if they desire to continue the relationship. The parties must both send an email to the Exchange to avoid termination of the relationship, provided the relationship was not terminated earlier in the year. The Exchange believes that this process is burdensome for Participants that desire to remain in the program. The consequence of not renewing is termination. The Exchange desires to remove the administrative burden associated with the requirement to annually renew and instead provide that the Affiliated Entity relationship will automatically renew each month, unless otherwise terminated. The proposed new rule text would provide,

The term “Affiliated Entity” is a relationship between an Appointed MM and an Appointed OFP for purposes of aggregating eligible volume for pricing in Options 7, Sections 2(1) and 2(6) for which a volume threshold or volume percentage is required to qualify for higher rebates or lower fees. NOM Market Makers and OFPs are required to send an email to the Exchange to appoint their counterpart at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to qualify for the next month. The Exchange will acknowledge receipt of the emails and specify the date the Affiliated Entity is eligible for applicable pricing in Options 7, Sections 2(1) and 2(6). Each Affiliated Entity relationship will commence on the 1st of a month and may not be terminated prior to the end of any month. An Affiliated Entity Relationship will automatically renew each month until or unless either party terminates earlier in writing by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Participants under Common Ownership may not qualify as a counterparty comprising an Affiliated Entity. Each Participant may qualify for only one (1) Affiliated Entity relationship at any given time.

As is the case today, parties to the Affiliated Entity relationship may decide to terminate the relationship during any month by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Cboe Exchange, Inc. (“Cboe”) has a similar automatic renewal process for its Appointed OFP and Appointed Market-Maker Program.⁴ The Exchange believes that this amendment will streamline the workflow for Participants by not requiring Participants to renew each year to continue the affiliated relationship.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁶ 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 any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange’s proposal to amend the way Exchange Participants indicate their participation in the Affiliated Entity Program is reasonable. Today, Participants are required to annually renew their Affiliated Entity relationship at the end of one year if they desire to continue the relationship. The parties must both send an email to the Exchange to avoid termination of the relationship, provided the relationship was not terminated earlier in the year. The Exchange believes that this process is burdensome for Participants that desire to remain in the program. The consequence of not renewing is termination of their participation in the

⁴ See Cboe’s Fees Schedule at footnote 23 “A Market-Maker may designate an Order Flow Provider (“OFP”) as its “Appointed OFP” and an OFP may designate a Market-Maker to be its “Appointed Market-Maker” for purposes of qualifying for credits under AVP. In order to effectuate the appointment, the parties would need to submit the Appointed Affiliate Form to the Exchange by 3:00 p.m. CST on the first business day of the month in order to be eligible to qualify for credits under AVP for that month. The Exchange will recognize only one such designation for each party once every calendar month, which designation will automatically renew each month until or unless the Exchange receives an email from either party indicating that the appointment has been terminated. A Market-Maker that has both an Affiliate OFP and Appointed OFP will only qualify based upon the volume of its Appointed OFP. The volume of an OFP that has both an Affiliate Market-Maker and Appointed Market-Maker will only count towards qualifying the Appointed Market-Maker. Volume executed in open outcry is not eligible to receive a credit under AVP.”

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

program. The Exchange desires to remove the administrative burden associated with the requirement to annually renew and instead provide that the Affiliated Entity relationship will automatically renew each month, unless otherwise terminated. As is the case today, parties to the Affiliated Entity relationship may decide to terminate the relationship during any month by sending an email to the Exchange at least 3 business days prior to the last day of the month to terminate for the next month. Also, Cboe has a similar automatic renewal process for its Appointed OFP and Appointed Market-Maker Program.⁷ The Exchange believes that this amendment will streamline the workflow for Participants by not requiring Participants to renew each year to continue the affiliated relationship.

The Exchange's proposal to amend the way Exchange Participants indicate their participation in the Affiliated Entity Program is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory. Today, any Participant may participate in the Affiliated Entity Program. The proposed changes would impact all Participants that voluntarily elect to participate in the Affiliated Entity Program in a uniform manner.

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.

Inter-Market Competition

The proposal does not impose an undue burden on inter-market competition. Cboe has a similar automatic renewal process for its Appointed OFP and Appointed Market-

⁷ See Cboe's Fees Schedule at footnote 23 "A Market-Maker may designate an Order Flow Provider ("OFP") as its "Appointed OFP" and an OFP may designate a Market-Maker to be its "Appointed Market-Maker" for purposes of qualifying for credits under AVP. In order to effectuate the appointment, the parties would need to submit the Appointed Affiliate Form to the Exchange by 3:00 p.m. CST on the first business day of the month in order to be eligible to qualify for credits under AVP for that month. The Exchange will recognize only one such designation for each party once every calendar month, which designation will automatically renew each month until or unless the Exchange receives an email from either party indicating that the appointment has been terminated. A Market-Maker that has both an Affiliate OFP and Appointed OFP will only qualify based upon the volume of its Appointed OFP. The volume of an OFP that has both an Affiliate Market-Maker and Appointed Market-Maker will only count towards qualifying the Appointed Market-Maker. Volume executed in open outcry is not eligible to receive a credit under AVP."

Maker Program⁸ as proposed herein for the Affiliated Entity Program.

Intra-Market Competition

The Exchange's proposal to amend the way Exchange Participants indicate their participation in the Affiliated Entity Program does not impose an undue burden on competition. Today, any Participant may participate in an Affiliated Entity relationship. The proposed changes would impact all Participants that voluntarily elect to participate in the Affiliated Entity Program in a uniform manner.

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.⁹

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. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2021-095 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2021-095. This

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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, 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 Number SR-NASDAQ-2021-095, and should be submitted on or before January 3, 2022.

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

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-26858 Filed 12-10-21; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-93727; File No. SR-MEMX-2021-10]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; MEMX LLC; Order Instituting Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change To Establish a Retail Midpoint Liquidity Program

December 7, 2021.

I. Introduction

On August 18, 2021, MEMX LLC ("MEMX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).