

Under Seal; *Filing Acceptance Date*: August 6, 2024; *Filing Authority*: 39 U.S.C. 3642, 39 CFR 3040.130 through 3040.135, and 39 CFR 3035.105; *Public Representative*: Jennaca D. Upperman; *Comments Due*: August 14, 2024.

This Notice will be published in the **Federal Register**.

Erica A. Barker,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024-17893 Filed 8-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

POSTAL SERVICE

International Product Change—Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International & First-Class Package International Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International & First-Class Package International Service contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Competitive Product List in the Mail Classification Schedule.

DATES: *Date of notice*: August 12, 2024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher C. Meyerson, (202) 268-7820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The United States Postal Service® hereby gives notice that, pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3642 and 3632(b)(3), on August 1, 2024, it filed with the Postal Regulatory Commission a *USPS Request to Add Priority Mail Express International, Priority Mail International & First-Class Package International Service Contract 41 to Competitive Product List*. Documents are available at www.prc.gov, Docket Nos. MC2024-459 and CP2024-466.

Christopher Doyle,
Attorney, Ethics and Legal Compliance.

[FR Doc. 2024-17835 Filed 8-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-12-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-100663; File No. SR-ISE-2024-34]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq ISE, LLC; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change To Amend ISE Options 4, Section 3 To List and Trade Options on Units That Represent Interests in a Trust That Holds Ether (“Ether ETPs”)

August 6, 2024.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act” or “Exchange Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on July 22, 2024, Nasdaq ISE, LLC (“ISE” or “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“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 to [sic] amend Options 4, Section 3, Criteria for Underlying Securities.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend Options 4, Section 3, Criteria for Underlying Securities. Specifically, the

Exchange proposes to amend Options 4, Section 3(h) to allow the Exchange to list and trade options on units that represent interests in a trust that hold ether (“Ether ETPs”), designating them as Exchange-Traded Fund Shares (“ETFs”) deemed appropriate for options trading on the Exchange. Options 4, Section 3(h) provides that, subject to certain other criteria set forth in that Rule, securities deemed appropriate for options trading include ETFs that represent certain types of interests,³ including interests in certain specific trusts that hold financial instruments, money market instruments, or precious metals (which are deemed commodities).⁴

Ether ETPs are ether-backed commodity ETPs structured as trusts.⁵ Similar to any ETF currently deemed appropriate for options trading under Options 4, Section 3(h), the investment objective of an Ether ETP trust is to reflect generally the performance of the price of ether (before payment of the trust’s expenses and liabilities), offering investors an opportunity to gain exposure to ether without the complexities of ether delivery. As is the case for ETFs currently deemed appropriate for options trading, a [sic] Ether ETP’s shares represent units of fractional undivided beneficial interest in the trust, the assets of which consist principally of ether and are designed to track ether or the performance of the price of ether and offer access to the ether market.⁶ Ether ETPs provide investors with cost-efficient alternatives that allow a level of participation in the ether market through the securities market. The primary substantive difference between Ether ETPs and ETFs currently deemed appropriate for

³ Options 4, Section 3(h) provides that securities deemed appropriate for options trading shall include shares or other securities (“Exchange-Traded Fund Shares” or “ETFs”) that are traded on a national securities exchange and are defined as an “NMS” stock under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, and that meet certain criteria specified in Options 4, Section 3(h), including that they: . . . (iv) represent interests in the SPDR® Gold Trust, the iShares COMEX Gold Trust, the iShares Silver Trust, or the ETFs Gold Trust In addition to the aforementioned requirements, Options 4, Section 3(h)(1) and (2) must be met to list options on ETFs.

⁴ The Commission recently approved a rule change to list and trade shares of the Trust pursuant to Rule 5711(d) of The Nasdaq Stock Exchange LLC (“Commodity-Based Trust Shares”). See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100224 (May 23, 2024), 89 FR 46937 (May 30, 2024) (SR-NASDAQ-2023-045) (hereinafter “SR-NASDAQ-2023-045”). The Exchange represents it would not list options on a trust unless it satisfied all applicable criteria in Options 4, Section 3.

⁵ Pursuant to Options 4, Section 3(a), the Exchange would only have authority to list and trade ETFs that are trading as NMS stocks.

⁶ The trust may include minimal cash.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

options trading are that ETFs may hold securities, certain financial instruments, and specified precious metals (which are commodities), while Ether ETPs hold ether (which is also deemed a commodity).

The Exchange's initial listing standards for ETFs on which options may be listed and traded on the Exchange will apply to the Ether ETPs. The Exchange expects Ether ETPs to satisfy the initial listing standards as set forth in Options 4, Section 3(a) and Options 4, Section 3(h). Pursuant to Options 4, Section 3(a), a security (which includes an ETF) on which options may be listed and traded on the Exchange must be a security registered (with the Commission) and be an NMS stock (as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Act), and the security shall be characterized by a substantial number of outstanding shares that are widely held and actively traded.⁷ Options 4, Section 3(h)(1) requires that ETFs must either meet the criteria and guidelines set forth in Options 4, Section 3(a) and (b)⁸ or the ETFs are available for creation or redemption each business day from or through the issuing trust, investment company, commodity pool or other entity in cash or in kind at a price related to net asset value, and the issuer is obligated to issue ETFs in a specified aggregate number even if some or all of the investment assets and/or cash required to be deposited have not been received by the issuer, subject to the condition that the person obligated to deposit the investment assets has undertaken to deliver them as soon as possible and such undertaking is secured by the delivery and maintenance of collateral consisting of cash or cash equivalents satisfactory to the issuer of the ETFs, all as described in the ETFs' prospectus or the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares must be based on international or global indexes, or portfolios that include non-U.S. securities, and meet other criteria. The Exchange expects that Ether ETPs would satisfy Options 4, Section 3(h)(1)(ii).

Options on Ether ETPs will also be subject to the Exchange's continued listing standards for options on ETFs set forth in Options 4, Section 4(g) for ETFs deemed appropriate for options trading pursuant to Options 4, Section 3(h).

⁷ The Exchange represents it would not list options on a [sic] Ether ETP unless it satisfied the criteria in Options 4, Section 3(a), the proposed listing criteria, and any other applicable listing criteria.

⁸ Options 4, Section 3(h)(1) provides criteria and guidelines when evaluating potential underlying securities for the listing of options.

Specifically, options approved for trading pursuant to Options 4, Section 3(h) will not be deemed to meet the requirements for continued approval, and the Exchange shall not open for trading any additional series of option contracts of the class covering such ETFs if the ETFs are delisted from trading as provided in subparagraph (b)(5) of Options 4, Section 4⁹ or the ETFs are halted or suspended from trading on their primary market.¹⁰ Additionally, options on ETFs may be subject to the suspension of opening transactions in any series of options of the class covering ETFs in any of the following circumstances:

(1) in the case of options covering Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved pursuant to Options 4, Section 3(h)(A)(i), in accordance with the terms of subparagraphs (b)(1), (2), (3) and (4) of Options 4, Section 4;¹¹

(2) in the case of options covering Fund Shares approved pursuant to Options 4, Section 3(h)(A)(ii),¹² following the initial twelve-month period beginning upon the commencement of trading in the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares on a national securities exchange and are defined as an "NMS stock" under Rule 600 of Regulation NMS, there were fewer than 50 record and/or beneficial holders of such Exchange-Traded Fund Shares for 30 or more consecutive trading days;

(3) the value of the index or portfolio of securities or non-U.S. currency, portfolio of commodities including commodity futures contracts, options on commodity futures contracts, swaps, forward contracts, options on physical commodities and/or Financial Instruments and Money Market Instruments, on which the Exchange-Traded Fund Shares are based is no longer calculated or available; or

(4) such other event occurs or condition exists that in the opinion of the Exchange

⁹ Options 4, Section 4(b)(5) provides, if an underlying security is approved for options listing and trading under the provisions of Options 4, Section 3(c), the trading volume of the Original Security (as therein defined) prior to but not after the commencement of trading in the Restructure Security (as therein defined), including 'when-issued' trading, may be taken into account in determining whether the trading volume requirement of (3) of this paragraph (b) is satisfied. Options 4, Section 4(b)(3) provides, "The trading volume (in all markets in which the underlying security is traded) has been less than 1,800,000 shares in the preceding twelve (12) months."

¹⁰ See Options 4, Section 4(g).

¹¹ Options 4, Section 4(b)(5)(1) through (4) provides, if: (1) there are fewer than 6,300,000 shares of the underlying security held by persons other than those who are required to report their security holdings under Section 16(a) of the Act, (2) there are fewer than 1,600 holders of the underlying security, (3) the trading volume (in all markets in which the underlying security is traded) has been less than 1,800,000 shares in the preceding twelve (12) months, or (4) the underlying security ceases to be an 'NMS stock' as defined in Rule 600 of Regulation NMS under the Exchange Act.

¹² Options 4, Section 3(h)(ii) refers to Currency Trust Shares.

makes further dealing in such options on the Exchange inadvisable.

Options on a [sic] Ether ETP would be physically settled contracts with American-style exercise.¹³ Consistent with current Options 4, Section 5, which governs the opening of options series on a specific underlying security (including ETFs), the Exchange will open at least one expiration month for options on each Ether ETP¹⁴ and may also list series of options on a [sic] Ether ETP for trading on a weekly¹⁵ or quarterly¹⁶ basis. The Exchange may also list long-term equity option series ("LEAPS") that expire from twelve to thirty-nine months from the time they are listed.¹⁷

Pursuant to Options 4, Section 5(d), which governs strike prices of series of options on ETFs, the interval between strike prices of series of options on

¹³ See Options 4, Section 2, Rights and Obligations of Holders and Writers, which provides that the rights and obligations of holders and writers shall be as set forth in the Rules of the Clearing Corporation. See also The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") Rules, Chapter VIII, which governs exercise and assignment, and Chapter IX, which governs the discharge of delivery and payment obligations arising out of the exercise of physically settled stock option contracts. OCC Rules can be located at: https://www.theocc.com/getmedia/9d3854cd-b782-450f-bcf7-33169b0576ce/occ_rules.pdf.

¹⁴ See Options 4, Section 5(b). At the commencement of trading on the Exchange of a particular class of options, the Exchange will open a minimum of one (1) series of options in that class. The exercise price of that series will be fixed at a price per share, relative to the underlying stock price in the primary market at about the time that class of options is first opened for trading on the Exchange. The monthly expirations are subject to certain listing criteria for underlying securities described within Options 4, Section 5. Monthly listings expire the third Friday of the month. The term "expiration date" (unless separately defined elsewhere in the OCC By-Laws), when used in respect of an option contract (subject to certain exceptions), means the third Friday of the expiration month of such option contract, or if such Friday is a day on which the exchange on which such option is listed is not open for business, the preceding day on which such exchange is open for business. See OCC By-Laws Article 1, Section 1. Pursuant to Options 4, Section 5(c), additional series of options of the same class may be opened for trading on the Exchange when the Exchange deems it necessary to maintain an orderly market, to meet customer demand or when the market price of the underlying stock moves more than five strike prices from the initial exercise price or prices. The opening of a new series of options shall not affect the series of options of the same class previously opened. New series of options on an individual stock may be added until the beginning of the month in which the options contract will expire. Due to unusual market conditions, the Exchange, in its discretion, may add a new series of options on an individual stock until the close of trading on the business day prior to the business day of expiration, or, in the case of an option contract expiring on a day that is not a business day, on the second business day prior to expiration.

¹⁵ See Supplementary .03 to Options 4, Section 5.

¹⁶ See Supplementary .04 to Options 4, Section 5.

¹⁷ See Options 4, Section 8.

Ether ETPS approved for options trading pursuant to Section 3(h) of Options 4 will be \$1 or greater when the strike price is \$200 or less and \$5 or greater when the strike price is greater than \$200.¹⁸ With respect to the Short Term Options Series or Weekly Program, during the month prior to expiration of an option class that is selected for the Short Term Option Series Program, the strike price intervals for the related non-Short Term Option (“Related non-Short Term Option”) shall be the same as the strike price intervals for the Short Term Option.¹⁹ Specifically, the Exchange may open for trading Short Term Option Series at strike price intervals of (i) \$0.50 or greater where the strike price is less than \$100, and \$1 or greater where the strike price is between \$100 and \$150 for all option classes that participate in the Short Term Options Series Program; (ii) \$0.50 for option classes that trade in one dollar increments and are in the Short Term Option Series Program; or (iii) \$2.50 or greater where the strike price is above \$150.²⁰ Additionally, the Exchange may list series of options pursuant to the \$1 Strike Price Interval Program,²¹ the \$0.50 Strike Program,²² the \$2.50 Strike Price Program,²³ and the \$5 Strike Program.²⁴ Pursuant to Options 3, Section 3, where the price of a series of a Ether ETP options is less than \$3.00, the minimum increment will be \$0.05, and where the price is \$3.00 or higher, the minimum increment will be \$0.10.²⁵

¹⁸ See Options 5, Section 5(d). The interval between strike prices of series of options on Exchange-Traded Fund Shares approved for options trading pursuant to Section 3(h) of this Options 4 may also be fixed at a price per share which is reasonably close to the price per share at which the underlying security is traded in the primary market at or about the same time such series of options is first open for trading on the Exchange, or at such intervals as may have been established on another options exchange prior to the initiation of trading on the Exchange. See also Options 4, Section 5(h). The Exchange notes that for options listed pursuant to the Short Term Option Series Program, the Quarterly Options Series Program, and the Monthly Options Series Program, Supplementary Material .03, .04 and .08 to Options 4, Section 5 specifically sets forth intervals between strike prices on Short Term Option Series, Quarterly Options Series, and Monthly Options Series, respectively.

¹⁹ See Supplementary Material .03(e) to Options 4, Section 5.

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ See Supplementary Material .01 to Options 4, Section 5.

²² See Supplementary Material .05 to Options 4, Section 5.

²³ See Supplementary Material .02 to Options 4, Section 5.

²⁴ See Supplementary Material .06 to Options 4, Section 5.

²⁵ If options on a [sic] Ether ETP are eligible to participate in the Penny Interval Program, the minimum increment will be \$0.01 for series with a price below \$3.00 and \$0.05 for series with a price at or above \$3.00. See Supplementary Material .01

Any and all new series of Ether ETP options that the Exchange lists will be consistent and comply with the expirations, strike prices, and minimum increments set forth in Options 4, Section 5 and Options 3, Section 3, as applicable.

Ether ETP options will trade in the same manner as options on other ETFs on the Exchange. Exchange Rules that currently apply to the listing and trading of all options on ETFs on the Exchange, including, for example, Rules that govern listing criteria, expirations, exercise prices, minimum increments, position and exercise limits, margin requirements, customer accounts and trading halt procedures will apply to the listing and trading of Ether ETPS on the Exchange in the same manner as they apply to other options on all other ETFs that are listed and traded on the Exchange, including the precious-metal backed commodity ETFs already deemed appropriate for options trading on the Exchange pursuant to pursuant to Options 4, Section 3(h)(iv).

Position and exercise limits for options on ETFs, including options on Ether ETPS, are determined pursuant to Options 9, Sections 13 and 15, respectively. Position and exercise limits for ETFs options vary according to the number of outstanding shares and the trading volumes of the underlying ETF over the past six months, where the largest in capitalization and the most frequently traded ETFs have an option position and exercise limit of 250,000 contracts (with adjustments for splits, re-capitalizations, etc.) on the same side of the market; and smaller capitalization ETFs have position and exercise limits of 200,000, 75,000, 50,000 or 25,000 contracts (with adjustments for splits, re-capitalizations, etc.) on the same side of the market.²⁶ Further, Options 6C, Section 3, which governs margin requirements applicable to the trading of all options on the Exchange including options on ETFs, will also apply to the trading of the Ether ETP options.

The Exchange represents that the same surveillance procedures applicable to all other options on other ETFs currently listed and traded on the Exchange will apply to options on Ether ETPS, and that it has the necessary systems capacity to support the new option series. The Exchange believes that its existing surveillance and reporting safeguards are designed to deter and detect possible manipulative

to Options 3, Section 3 (which describes the requirements for the Penny Interval Program).

²⁶ As Ether ETPs do not currently trade, options on Ether ETPS would be subject to the 25,000 option contract limit.

behavior which might potentially arise from listing and trading options on ETFs, including precious metal-commodity backed ETF options, as proposed. Also, the Exchange may obtain information from CME Group Inc.’s designated contract markets that are members of the Intermarket Surveillance Group related to any financial instrument that is based, in whole or in part, upon an interest in or performance of ether, as applicable.

The Exchange has also analyzed its capacity and represents that it believes the Exchange and the Options Price Reporting Authority or “OPRA” have the necessary systems capacity to handle the additional traffic associated with the listing of new series that may result from the introduction of options on Ether ETPS up to the number of expirations currently permissible under the Exchange Rules. Because the proposal is limited to ETFs on a single commodity, the Exchange believes any additional traffic that may be generated from the introduction of Ether ETP options will be manageable.

The Exchange believes that offering options on Ether ETPS will benefit investors by providing them with an additional, relatively lower cost investing tool to gain exposure to the price of ether and hedging vehicle to meet their investment needs in connection with ether-related products and positions. The Exchange expects investors will transact in options on Ether ETPS in the unregulated over-the-counter (“OTC”) options market (if the Commission approves Ether ETPS for exchange-trading),²⁷ but may prefer to trade such options in a listed environment to receive the benefits of trading listing options, including (1) enhanced efficiency in initiating and closing out position [sic]; (2) increased market transparency; and (3) heightened contra-party creditworthiness due to the role of OCC as issuer and guarantor of all listed options. The Exchange believes that listing Ether ETP options may cause investors to bring this liquidity to the Exchange, would increase market transparency and enhance the process of price discovery conducted on the Exchange through increased order flow. The ETFs that hold financial instruments, money market instruments, or precious metal commodities on which the Exchange may already list and trade options are trusts structured in substantially the same manner as Ether ETPS and

²⁷ The Exchange understands from customers that investors have historically transacted in options on units in the OTC options market if such options were not available for trading in a listed environment.

essentially offer the same objectives and benefits to investors, just with respect to different assets. The Exchange notes that it has not identified any issues with the continued listing and trading of any ETF options, including ETFs that hold commodities (*i.e.*, precious metals) that it currently lists and trades on the Exchange.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,²⁸ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,²⁹ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)³⁰ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange believes that the proposal to list and trade options on Ether ETPS will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, protect investors because offering options on Ether ETPS will provide investors with a greater opportunity to realize the benefits of utilizing options on a [sic] ether-based ETP, including cost efficiencies and increased hedging strategies. The Exchange believes that offering Ether ETP options will benefit investors by providing them with a relatively lower-cost risk management tool, which will allow them to manage their positions and associated risk in their portfolios more easily in connection with exposure to the price of ether and with ether-related products and positions. Additionally, the Exchange's offering of Ether ETP options will provide investors with the ability to transact in such options in a listed market environment as opposed to in the unregulated OTC options market, which would increase market transparency and enhance the process of price discovery conducted on the Exchange through

increased order flow to the benefit of all investors. The Exchange also notes that it already lists options on other commodity-based ETFs,³¹ which, as described above, are trusts structured in substantially the same manner as Ether ETPS and essentially offer the same objectives and benefits to investors, just with respect to a different commodity (*i.e.*, ether rather than precious metals) and for which the Exchange has not identified any issues with the continued listing and trading of commodity-backed ETF options it currently lists for trading.

The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, because it is consistent with current Exchange Rules, previously filed with the Commission. Options on Ether ETPS must satisfy the initial listing standards and continued listing standards currently in the Exchange Rules, applicable to options on all ETFs, including ETFs that hold other commodities already deemed appropriate for options trading on the Exchange. Ether ETP options will trade in the same manner as any other ETF options—the same Exchange Rules that currently govern the listing and trading of all ETF options, including permissible expirations, strike prices and minimum increments, and applicable position and exercise limits and margin requirements, will govern the listing and trading of options on Ether ETPS in the same manner.

The Exchange represents that it has the necessary systems capacity to support the new ETF option series. The Exchange believes that its existing surveillance and reporting safeguards are designed to deter and detect possible manipulative behavior which might arise from listing and trading ETF options, including Ether ETP options.

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 that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act as Ether ETPS would need to satisfy the initial listing standards set forth in the Exchange Rules in the same manner as any other ETF before the Exchange could list options on them.

Additionally, Ether ETP options will be equally available to all market participants who wish to trade such options. The Exchange Rules currently applicable to the listing and trading of options on ETFs on the Exchange will apply in the same manner to the listing and trading of all options on Ether ETPS. Also, and as stated above, the Exchange already lists options on other commodity-based ETFs.³²

The Exchange does not believe that the proposal to list and trade options on Ether ETPS will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. To the extent that the advent of Ether ETP options trading on the Exchange may make the Exchange a more attractive marketplace to market participants at other exchanges, such market participants are free to elect to become market participants on the Exchange. Additionally, other options exchanges are free to amend their listing rules, as applicable, to permit them to list and trade options on Ether ETPS. Additionally, the Exchange notes that listing and trading Ether ETP options on the Exchange will subject such options to transparent exchange-based rules as well as price discovery and liquidity, as opposed to alternatively trading such options in the OTC market. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change may relieve any burden on, or otherwise promote, competition as it is designed to increase competition for order flow on the Exchange in a manner that is beneficial to investors by providing them with a lower-cost option to hedge their investment portfolios. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues that offer similar products. Ultimately, the Exchange believes that offering Ether ETP options for trading on the Exchange will promote competition by providing investors with an additional, relatively low-cost means to hedge their portfolios and meet their investment needs in connection with ether prices and ether-related products and positions on a listed options exchange.

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.

²⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

²⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

³⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78(f)(b)(5).

³¹ See Options 4, Section 3(h)(iv).

³² See Options 4, Section 3(h)(iv).

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

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the **Federal Register** or within such longer period up to 90 days (i) as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

(A) by order approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, or

(B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be 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 (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-ISE-2024-34 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-ISE-2024-34. 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 (<https://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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and

copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-ISE-2024-34 and should be submitted on or before September 3, 2024.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.³³

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2024-17843 Filed 8-9-24; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-100665; File No. SR-CboeEDGX-2024-009]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Definition of Retail Order, and Codify Interpretations and Policies Regarding Permissible Uses of Algorithms by RMOs

August 6, 2024.

On January 25, 2024, Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to amend the definition of Retail Order,³ and codify interpretations and policies regarding permissible uses of algorithms by Retail Member Organizations.⁴ The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2024.⁵ On March 20, 2024, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁶ the

Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.⁷ On May 13, 2024, the Commission instituted proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act⁸ to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change.⁹ On July 10, 2024, the Exchange submitted Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change, which replaced and superseded the proposed rule change as originally filed. On July 17, 2024, the Exchange withdrew Amendment No. 1.

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act¹⁰ provides that, after initiating proceedings, the Commission shall issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change not later than 180 days after the date of publication of the Notice of filing of the proposed rule change. The Commission may extend the period for issuing an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change, however, by not more than 60 days if the Commission determines that a longer period is appropriate and publishes the reasons for such determination. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on February 13, 2024.¹¹ The 180th day after publication of the Notice is August 11, 2024. The Commission is extending the time period for approving or disapproving the proposed rule change for an additional 60 days.

The Commission finds that it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to issue an order approving or disapproving the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change and the issues raised therein. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,¹² designates October 10, 2024, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove the proposed rule change (File No. SR-CboeEDGX-2024-009).

³³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ The term "Retail Order" is defined in Exchange Rule 11.21(a)(2).

⁴ The term "Retail Member Organization" (or "RMO") is defined in Exchange Rule 11.21(a)(1) to mean a member of the Exchange (or a division thereof) that has been approved by the Exchange under Exchange Rule 11.21 to submit Retail Orders.

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99490 (February 7, 2024), 89 FR 10129 ("Notice"). The Commission has not received any comments on the proposed rule change.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99811, 89 FR 21077 (March 26, 2024).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

⁹ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100114 (May 13, 2024), 89 FR 43462 (May 17, 2024).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹¹ See *supra* note 5.

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).