SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-66172; File No. SR-ISE-2012-03)

January 18, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Fees and Rebates for Adding and Removing Liquidity

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that, on January 5, 2012, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The ISE is proposing to amend its transaction fees and rebates for adding and removing liquidity. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website (<a href="http://www.ise.com">http://www.ise.com</a>), at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the

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

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

places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

## 1. Purpose

The Exchange currently assesses per contract transaction fees and rebates to market participants that add or remove liquidity from the Exchange ("maker/taker fees") in a number of options classes (the "Select Symbols"). The purpose of this proposed rule change is to amend the list of Select Symbols on the Exchange's Schedule of Fees, titled "Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity in Select Symbols and Complex Order Maker/Taker fees for symbols that are in the Penny Pilot Program" in order to attract additional order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange is proposing to delete AMR Corporation ("AMR") from the list of Select Symbols. With this proposed rule change, AMR will no longer be subject to the Exchange's maker/taker fees.

The Exchange also proposes to make a non-substantive, clarifying change to page 21 of the Schedule of Fees, titled "Rebates and Fees for Adding and Removing Liquidity for complex orders in NDX and RUT." The Exchange recently adopted fees and rebates for complex orders in NDX and RUT<sup>4</sup> and now proposes to clarify that the \$0.50 per contract rebate payable to Priority Customer complex orders when these orders trade with non-customer orders in the Complex Order Book is applicable only to complex orders in NDX and RUT by deleting the words "in the Select Symbols" from footnote 2 on page 21 of the Schedule of Fees.

Options classes subject to maker/taker fees are identified by their ticker symbol on the Exchange's Schedule of Fees.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 66084 (January 3, 2012) (SR-ISE-2011-84).

# 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend its Schedule of Fees is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>5</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>6</sup> in particular, in that it is an equitable allocation of reasonable fees and other charges among Exchange members and other persons using its facilities.

The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to remove AMR from its list of Select Symbols to attract additional order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes that applying non-maker/taker fees to AMR, including the opportunity to receive payment for order flow, will attract order flow in AMR to the Exchange.

The Exchange believes that it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory to amend its list of Select Symbols to remove AMR because the list of Select Symbols would apply uniformly to all categories of participants in the same manner. All market participants who trade the Select Symbols would be subject to the maker/taker fees and rebates, which would not include AMR. Also, all market participants would be uniformly subject to the non-maker/taker fees, which would include AMR.

Finally, the Exchange believes that clarifying that the rebate payable to Priority Customer complex orders when these orders trade with non-customer orders in the Complex Order Book is applicable only to complex orders in NDX and RUT is equitable and reasonable because it clarifies the applicability of the rebate.

#### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The proposed rule change does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

# C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u> Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

## 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. Act. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or 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 e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-ISE-2012-03 on the subject line.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

## Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2012-03. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail 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 (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). 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; 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-ISE-2012-03 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{8}$ 

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

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<sup>8 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).