

copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington DC 20549-0609. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CHX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CHX-2002-03 and should be submitted by March 27, 2002.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-5270 Filed 3-5-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-U

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-45481; File No. SR-CHX-2002-01]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by The Chicago Stock Exchange, Incorporated to Extend Pilot Rules for Decimals

February 27, 2002.

Pursuant to section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on January 14, 2002, the Chicago Stock Exchange, Incorporated ("CHX" 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 CHX. The Exchange filed the proposal pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act,³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. 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 extend through April 15, 2002, the pilot rules amending certain CHX rules that were impacted by the securities industry transition to a decimal pricing environment. The pilot rules are due to expire on January 14, 2002. The CHX does not propose any substantive or typographical changes to the pilot; the only change is an extension of the pilot's expiration date through April 15, 2002. The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Commission and at the CHX.

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 CHX included statements concerning the purpose of, and basis for, the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received regarding the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The CHX has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

On August 24, 2000, the Commission approved, on a pilot basis through February 28, 2001, changes proposed by the Exchange to amend certain CHX rules that would be impacted by the securities industry transition to a decimal pricing environment.⁵ The pilot was extended three times.⁶ The Exchange now requests an extension of the current pilot through April 15, 2002. The CHX does not propose to make any substantive or typographical changes to the pilot.

2. Statutory Basis

The CHX believes the proposal is consistent with the requirements of the

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 43204 (August 24, 2000), 65 FR 53065 (August 31, 2000) (SR-CHX-00-22).

⁶ See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 43974 (February 16, 2001), 66 FR 11621 (February 26, 2001) (SR-CHX-2001-03) (extending pilot through July 9, 2001); 44488 (June 28, 2001), 66 FR 35684 (July 6, 2001) (SR-CHX-2001-13) (extending pilot through November 5, 2001); and 45059 (November 15, 2001), 66 FR 58543 (November 21, 2001) (SR-CHX-2001-20) (extending pilot through January 14, 2002).

Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of section 6(b).⁷ The CHX believes the proposal is consistent with section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁸ in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments, and to perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any inappropriate burden on competition.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

- (i) Significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;
- (ii) Impose any significant burden on competition; and

(iii) Become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹⁰ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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.

The Exchange has requested that the Commission waive the 5-day pre-filing requirement and accelerate the operative date. The Commission finds good cause to waive the 5-day pre-filing requirement and to designate the proposal to become operative immediately because such designation is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Acceleration of the operative date and waiver of the 5-day pre-filing

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78(f)(b).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

requirement will allow the pilot to continue uninterrupted through April 15, 2002, the deadline by which self-regulatory organizations must file proposed rule changes to set the minimum price variation for quoting in a decimals environment. For these reasons, the Commission finds good cause to designate that the proposal is both effective and operative upon filing with the Commission.¹¹

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CHX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CHX-2002-01 and should be submitted by March 27, 2002.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 02-5271 Filed 3-5-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-45483; File No. SR-NASD-2002-11]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Relating to Amendments to NASD Rule 2260 To Require the Forwarding of Issuer and Trustee Communications to Beneficial Holders of Debt Securities

February 27, 2002.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on January 17, 2002, the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD" or "Association"), through its wholly-owned subsidiary, NASD Regulation, Inc. ("NASD Regulation") 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 NASD. 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

NASD Regulation is proposing to amend Rule 2260 of the rules of the NASD to require a broker-dealer to make reasonable efforts to forward a communication from an issuer or trustee regarding a debt security to the beneficial owner of such security. The proposed rule change would also clarify IM-2260 (Suggested Rate of Reimbursement) to reflect that, in forwarding proxies and other materials, members may not charge for envelopes that are provided by the issuer or the trustee, as well as by persons soliciting proxies.

Below is the text of the proposed rule change.³ Proposed new language is in

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ In addition to the proposed changes to Rule 2260 set forth below, in 1999 the NASD proposed to amend Rule 2260 to allow NASD members to give proxies in the absence of written instructions from beneficial owners of securities. See SR-NASD-99-63 and Amendment No. 1 thereto, filed, respectively, on October 21, 1999, and November 10, 1999. Although the proposed change was published for notice and comment, SR-NASD-99-63 remains pending before the Commission. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 42238 (December 15, 1999), 64 FR 71836 (December 22, 1999) (notice of filing of proposed rule change). The rule change proposed herein is based on the current text of Rule 2260, rather than on the amendments proposed in SR-NASD-99-63. The NASD

italics; proposed deletions are in brackets.

* * * * *

2260. Forwarding of Proxy and Other Materials

(a) A member has an inherent duty [in carrying out high standards of commercial honor and just and equitable principles of trade] to forward *promptly certain information regarding a security to the beneficial owner (or the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser) if the member carries the account in which the security is held for the beneficial owner and the security is registered in a name other than the name of the beneficial owner.*

(1) Equity Securities

For an equity security, the member must forward:

(A)[(1)]all proxy material [which] *that* is properly furnished to *the member* [it] by the issuer of the securities or a stockholder of such issuer;[to each beneficial owner of shares of that issue (or the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser) which are held by the member for the beneficial owner thereof] and

(B)[(2)]all annual reports, information statements and other materials sent to stockholders[, which] *that* are properly furnished to *the member*[it] by the issuer of the securities. [to each beneficial owner of shares of that issue (or the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser) which are held by the member for the beneficial owner thereof.]

(2) Debt Securities

For a debt security other than a municipal security, the member must make reasonable efforts to forward any communication, document, or collection of documents pertaining to the issue that: (A) was prepared by or on behalf of, the issuer, or was prepared by or on behalf of, the trustee of the specific issue of the security; and (B) contains material information about such issue including, but not limited to, notices concerning monetary or technical defaults, financial reports, information statements, and material event notices.

(b) No member shall give a proxy to vote stock [which] *that* is registered in its name, except as required or permitted under the provisions of paragraphs (c) or (d) hereof, unless such member is the beneficial owner of such stock.

represents that, if necessary, it will amend SR-NASD-99-63 to conform the rule text therein to the rule text proposed in this rule filing.

¹¹ For purposes only of waiving the 5-day pre-filing requirement and accelerating the operative date of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).