SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Stock Exchange, Incorporated: Notice of Filing Proposed Rule Change To Exclude Rights and Warrants From the Individual Securities Circuit Breaker Rule

November 23, 2011.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”), and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on November 21, 2011, the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc. (“CHX” or the “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 CHX. CHX has filed this proposal pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 19b–4(f)(6) which is effective upon filing with the Commission.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

CHX proposes to amend Article 20, Rule 2(e) to exclude all rights and warrants from the individual securities circuit breaker rule. The text of this proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at (http://www.chx.com), in the Commission’s Public Reference Room, and at http://www.sec.gov.

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 changes and discussed any comments it received regarding the proposal. 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 the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Article 20, Rule 2(e) to exclude all rights and warrants from the individual securities circuit breaker under the rule. The Commission approved Article 20, Rule 2(e) on a pilot basis on June 10, 2010 to provide for trading pauses in individual securities due to extraordinary market volatility (“Trading Pause”) in all securities included within the S&P 500® Index (“S&P 500”) (“Pause Pilot”). The Exchange noted in its filing to adopt Article 20, Rule 2(e) that during the Pause Pilot period it would continue to assess whether additional securities need to be added and whether the parameters of Article 20, Rule 2(e) would need to be modified to accommodate trading characteristics of different securities. The Exchange subsequently received approval to add to the Pause Pilot the securities included in the Russell 1000® Index (“Russell 1000”) and a specified list of Exchange Traded Products (“ETPs”).

For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has also considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).


On June 23, 2011, the Commission approved proposed rule changes of the Exchanges to amend certain of their respective rules to expand the Pause Pilot to include all remaining NMS stocks ("Phase III Securities"), which included rights and warrants. Unlike the original Pause Pilot securities, amended Article 20, Rule 2(e) applies wider percentage price moves to the Phase III Securities before a trading pause is triggered. The changes to Article 20, Rule 2(e) became effective on August 8, 2011. CHX analyzed the nature of the trading pauses triggered since adoption of the Pause Pilot and noted that over 25% of such pauses have occurred in rights and warrants. Further, CHX has experienced a significant increase in trading pauses involving rights and warrants since the implementation of the Phase III Securities, with such pauses representing approximately 52% of all trading pauses occurring through the end of August 2011. Rights and warrants trade on equity exchanges, but are closely related to call options. Rights and warrants entitle owners to purchase shares of stock at predetermined prices subject to various factors, particularly the volatility of the underlying stock as well as other related events, such as the volatility of the stock itself. As a consequence, the prices of rights and warrants may move more dramatically than the prices of the underlying stocks even when the rights and warrants (and the underlying stock) are trading in an orderly manner. This difference in trading behavior may result in a scenario whereby the rights and warrants trigger the circuit breaker under Article 20, Rule 2(e) and are subject to a trading pause, even while the underlying stock continues to trade. This can be particularly true of rights and warrants that have low prices. Accordingly, CHX is proposing to exclude rights and warrants from the trading pause under Article 20, Rule 2(e).

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), in general, and further the objectives of Section 6(b)(5). 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 facilitating transactions in securities, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. The proposed rule change also is designed to support the principles of Section 11A(a)(1) of the Act in that it seeks to ensure fair competition among brokers and dealers and among exchange markets.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule meets these requirements because it excludes certain securities from the rule’s coverage that are prone to triggering pauses because of their unique characteristics. These securities are unique in that they may move more dramatically than the prices of the underlying stocks even when they are related even when both securities are trading in an orderly manner. As such, the securities that are subject to this proposal may trigger the circuit breaker under Article 20, Rule 2(e) and be subject to a trading pause, even while the underlying security continues to trade. Although there is little benefit in pausing trading in these securities, such pauses sequester regulatory resources that are better applied to the review of trading pauses in other securities that have a greater impact on the national market system.

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.

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 Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act11 and Rule 19b–4(f)(6) thereunder.12 Because the 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 prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act13 and Rule 19b–4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.14 A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b–4(f)(6)15 normally does not become operative for 30 days after the date of filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b–4(f)(6)(iii)16 the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may become operative immediately upon filing.

The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Including rights and warrants in the pilot program which may trigger a circuit breaker and be subject to a trading pause, even while the underlying security continues to trade, provides little benefit and has the potential to create confusion among investors. Excluding rights and warrants from the pilot program should minimize investor confusion that could result from temporary trading pauses in these securities. For this reason, the

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Commission designates the proposed rule change as operative upon the date of this Notice. 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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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://sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR–CHX–2011–32 on the subject line.

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 No. SR–CHX–2011–32. 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 Web site (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 Web site 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 such 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 No. SR–CHX–2011–32 and should be submitted on or before December 21, 2011.

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

Kevin M. O’Neill,

Deputy Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule To Amend EDGX Rule 11.9

November 23, 2011.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”), and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on November 17, 2011, the EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or the “EDGX”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Item II below, which item have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. 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 introduce an additional routing option to Rule 11.9 and amend existing routing options. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at www.directedge.com, on the Commission’s Web site at www.sec.gov, at the Exchange’s principal office, and at the Public Reference Room of the Commission.

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 self-regulatory organization 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’s current list of routing options are codified in Rule 11.9(b)(3). In this filing, the Exchange proposes to amend the language of two routing options contained in Rule 11.9(b)(3) to modify the behavior of unexecuted shares and distinguish the execution path if an order is sent as a Day Order versus an Immediate-or-Cancel (“IOC”) order.

Specifically, Rule 11.9(b)(3)(b) provides that the RDOT routing option checks the System for available shares and then is sent sequentially to destinations on the System routing table. If shares remain unexecuted after routing, they are sent to the NYSE. The Exchange proposes to modify this strategy to provide that any unexecuted shares can be re-routed by the NYSE and any remainder after routing will be posted to the NYSE book, unless otherwise instructed by the User. The phrase “unless otherwise instructed by the User” is proposed to be added to the rule to account for the fact that if a User sends an IOC order, it will not post to the NYSE book.

Rule 11.9(b)(3)(i) provides that the RDOX routing option checks the System for available shares and then is sent to the NYSE. The Exchange proposes to amend this strategy to provide that the unexecuted shares can be re-routed by the NYSE and any remainder after routing will be posted to the NYSE book, unless otherwise instructed by the User. The phrase “unless otherwise instructed by the User” is proposed to be added to the rule [sic] account for the fact that if a User sends an IOC order, it will not post to the NYSE book.

17 For purposes only of waiving the 30-day operative delay, the Commission has also considered the proposed rule’s impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. See 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

