SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–70929; IA–3721; File No. 4–670]

Proxy Advisory Firm Roundtable

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission.

ACTION: Notice of roundtable discussion; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The Securities and Exchange Commission will host a roundtable about proxy advisory firms. The panel will be asked to discuss topics including the current state of proxy advisory firm use by investment advisers and institutional investors and potential changes that have been suggested by market participants. Panelists will also be invited to discuss any new ideas.

The roundtable discussion will be held in the multi-purpose room of the Securities and Exchange Commission headquarters at 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC, on December 5, 2013 from 9:30 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to observe the roundtable discussion. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis. The roundtable discussion will also be available via webcast on the Commission’s Web site at www.sec.gov.

DATES: The roundtable discussion will take place on December 5, 2013. The Commission will accept comments regarding issues addressed at the roundtable until January 10, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Use the Commission’s internet comment form (http://sec.gov/rules/other.shtml); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number x–xxx 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 Number 4–670. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help us process and review your comments more efficiently, please only use one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission’s Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/other.shtml). Comments are also 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 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. All comments received will be posted without change; we do not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sara Cortes, Senior Special Counsel, Division of Investment Management, at 202–551–6700, or Raymond Be, Special Counsel, Division of Corporation Finance, at 202–551–3500, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549.

By the Commission.

Dated: November 22, 2013.

Elizabeth M. Murphy,
Secretary.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend the New York Stock Exchange Price List Related to Co-Location Services

November 21, 2013.

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 12, 2013, New York Stock Exchange LLC (“NYSE” or the “Exchange”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items 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 amend its Price List related to co-location services in order to provide further specification regarding the fees applicable to cabinets for which power is not utilized (“PNU cabinets”). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at www.nyse.com, 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 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 those 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 parts 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 its Price List related to co-location services in order to provide further specification regarding the fees applicable to PNU cabinets. The Exchange proposes to implement the change immediately. A User is currently able to obtain one or more PNU cabinets in the data center. A PNU cabinet is an unused cabinet in proximity to a User’s existing cabinet(s), which the User reserves for future use, i.e., a cabinet that the User...
does not anticipate using until some point in the future and therefore is reserved but not currently utilized. Although PNU cabinets do not use power, when the Exchange establishes a PNU cabinet, it includes wiring, circuitry, and hardware and allocates either four kilowatts ("kW") or eight kWs of unused power capacity, depending on the User’s requirements, as it does for all cabinets. This allows the PNU cabinet to be powered and used promptly upon the User’s request. The applicable monthly fee for PNU cabinets (the “PNU Fee”) was described within the Original Co-location Approval as 40% of the applicable per kW monthly fee. Accordingly, since the Exchange began offering co-location services in the data center, the amount of the PNU Fee charged for a cabinet per month depended on the number of kWs of power allocated to that PNU cabinet. The Exchange subsequently specified that the PNU Fee would be $360 per month, which is 40% of the lowest per kW monthly cabinet fee specified in the Price List for cabinets in use (i.e., 40% of $900). The Exchange continued to charge the PNU Fee on a per kW basis. To provide greater specificity with respect to the PNU Fee and better align the Price List with the Exchange’s billing practice, the Exchange proposes to amend the Price List to explicitly provide that the applicable monthly PNU Fee is $360 per kW of power allocated to the PNU cabinet.

As is the case with all Exchange co-location arrangements, (i) neither a User nor any of the User’s customers would be permitted to submit orders directly to the Exchange unless such User or customer is a member organization, a Sponsored Participant or an agent thereof (e.g., a service bureau providing order entry services); (ii) use of the co-location services proposed herein would be completely voluntary and available to all Users on a non-discriminatory basis; and (iii) a User would only incur one charge for the particular co-location service described herein, regardless of whether the User connects only to the Exchange or to the Exchange and one or both of its affiliates. The proposed change is not otherwise intended to address any other issues relating to co-location services and/or related fees, and the Exchange is not aware of any problems that Users would have in complying with the proposed change.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and (5) of the Act. In particular, because it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among market participants, issuers and other persons using its facilities and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

Overall, the Exchange believes that the proposed change is consistent with the Act because the Exchange offers the co-location services described herein (i.e., PNU cabinets) as a convenience to Users, but in doing so incurs certain costs, including costs related to the data center facility, including maintaining an adequate level of power so that PNU cabinets can be available and powered on promptly at the request of a User. As such, the proposed fees relate to the level of services provided by the Exchange and, in turn, received by the User.

The Exchange believes that the proposal is reasonable because it would better align the Price List with the Exchange’s billing practices and provide further specificity in the Price List regarding such fees. The proposal is further reasonable because pricing for PNU cabinets is comparable to pricing for the “Cabinet Proximity Option” available to users of co-location facilities of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC (“NASDAQ”), which varies based on the power capacity of the cabinet. As with fees for existing co-location services, the PNU cabinet fees are charged only to those Users that voluntarily select the related services, which are available to all Users. The Exchange therefore believes that the proposed change is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it would continue to result in fees being charged only to Users that voluntarily select to receive the corresponding services and because those services are available to all Users. As such, the proposed change would not unfairly discriminate between or among market participants that are otherwise capable of satisfying any applicable co-location fees, requirements, terms and conditions established from time to time by the Exchange.

Finally, the Exchange believes that it is subject to significant competitive forces, as described below in the Exchange’s statement regarding the burden on competition. For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the Act.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because any market participants that are otherwise capable of satisfying any applicable co-location fees, requirements, terms and conditions established from time to time by the Exchange could have access to the co-location services provided in the data center. This is also true because, in addition to the services being completely voluntary, they are available to all Users on an equal basis (i.e., the same range of products and services are available to all Users).

The Exchange further believes that the proposal would not impose any burden on...
on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because it would result in further specification in the Price List regarding the fees applicable to PNU cabinets. Although PNU cabinets do not use power, when the Exchange establishes a PNU cabinet, it includes wiring, circuitry, and hardware and allocates either four kWs or eight kWs of unused power capacity, depending on the User’s requirements, as it does for all cabinets. This allows the cabinet to be powered and used promptly upon the User’s request. The proposed amendment to the Price List would therefore specify that the applicable monthly PNU Fee is $360 per kW of power allocated to the PNU cabinet.

Finally, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if, for example, they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or if they determine that another venue’s products and services are more competitive than on the Exchange. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually review, and consider adjusting, the services it offers as well as any corresponding fees and credits to remain competitive with other exchanges. For the reasons described above, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment.

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b–4 thereunder, because it establishes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange.

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 under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or discontinued.

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–NYSE–2013–74 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 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 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–NYSE–2013–74 and should be submitted on or before December 18, 2013.

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

Kevin M. O’Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2013–28418 Filed 11–26–13; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 0011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the NYSE Arca Options Fee Schedule and the NYSE Arca Equities Schedule of Fees and Charges for Exchange Services Related to Co-Location Services

November 21, 2013.

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 8, 2013, NYSE Arca, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “NYSE Arca”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items 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 amend the NYSE Arca Options Fee Schedule and, through its wholly owned subsidiary NYSE Arca Equities, Inc. (“NYSE Arca Equities”), the NYSE Arca Equities Schedule of Fees and Charges for Exchange Services (the “Equities Fee Schedule” and, together with the Options Fee Schedule, the “Fee Schedules”) related to co-location services in order to provide further specification regarding the fees applicable to cabinets for which power is not utilized (“PNU cabinets”). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s Web site at www.nyse.com, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.