

2014–29 and should be submitted on or before January 8, 2015.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

Kevin M. O'Neill,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014–29616 Filed 12–17–14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–73830; File No. SR–NYSEArca–2014–138]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE Arca, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Amending Rule 6.62(k) To Disallow Market Orders From Being Eligible for Designation as An Immediate-or-Cancel Order

December 12, 2014.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)¹ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”)² and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,³ notice is hereby given that, on December 2, 2014, 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 and II 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 the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 6.62(k) (Certain Types of Orders Defined) to disallow Market Orders from being eligible for designation as an Immediate-or-Cancel order (“IOC Order”). 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 the 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 Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend Rule 6.62(k) to disallow Market Orders from being eligible for designation as an IOC Order.

Per Rule 6.62(k), an IOC Order is defined as “A Market or Limit Order that is to be executed in whole or in part on the Exchange as soon as such order is received, and the portion not so executed is to be treated as canceled.” Per Rule 6.62(a), “[a] Market Order is an order to buy or sell a stated number of option contracts and is to be executed at the best price obtainable when the order reaches the Exchange.” Market participants entering a Market Order are instructing the Exchange to execute their order in its entirety at the best price, immediately upon arrival at the Exchange, subject to Trade Collar Protection set forth in Rule 6.60(a).

The Exchange believes that attaching the IOC time-in-force condition to a Market Order is unnecessary because Market Orders, by definition, are intended to be executed at the best price available at the Exchange. In essence, except when subject to Trade Collar Protection, a Market Order already operates similarly to an order with an IOC time-in-force condition. To streamline the offerings of Exchange order types, the Exchange therefore proposes to eliminate the ability to designate a Market Orders [sic] as an IOC Order. The Exchange believes the proposed change would assist with the maintenance of fair and orderly markets because it would reduce the complexity of order types available to market participants and would help clarify the nature of order types available for trading on the Exchange.

Implementation

The Exchange will announce the implementation date of this change through a Trader Update.

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)⁴ of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the

“Act”), in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5),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. Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed change would assist with the maintenance of fair and orderly markets because it would reduce the complexity of order types available to market participants, thereby adding transparency and clarity to the Exchange’s rules, and would help clarify the nature of order types available for trading on the Exchange. The Exchange further believes that deleting the IOC time-in-force modifier for Market Orders would also remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market by ensuring that members, regulators and the public can more easily navigate the Exchange’s rulebook and better understand the order types available for trading on the Exchange. Moreover, the Exchange believes that the elimination of the IOC time-in-force modifier for Market Orders would simplify order processing and reduce the burden on system capacity, which the Exchange believes is consistent with promoting just and equitable principles of trade as well as protecting investors and the public interest.

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. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would relieve a burden on competition by eliminating an order type and streamlining the Exchange’s rule. In doing so, the proposed rule change would also serve to promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace and facilitating investor protection.

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.

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 15 U.S.C. 78a.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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 Act⁶ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁷ 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 Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁸

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)⁹ of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change 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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSEArca-2014-138 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-NYSEArca-2014-138. 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 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 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 Number SR-NYSEArca-2014-138, and should be submitted on or before January 8, 2015.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁰

Kevin M. O'Neill,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014-29618 Filed 12-17-14; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[File No. 500-1]

Geo Finance Corporation; Order of Suspension of Trading

December 16, 2014.

It appears to the Securities and Exchange Commission that there is a lack of current and accurate information concerning the securities of Geo Finance Corporation ("Geo Finance") because of concerns regarding the accuracy and adequacy of information in the marketplace and potentially

manipulative activity related to Geo Finance common stock. Geo Finance is a Florida corporation with its principal place of business located in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Its stock is quoted on OTC Link, (previously "Pink Sheets") operated by OTC Markets Group Inc., under the ticker symbol: GEFI.

The Commission is of the opinion that the public interest and the protection of investors require a suspension of trading in the securities of the above-listed company.

Therefore, it is ordered, pursuant to Section 12(k) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, that trading in the securities of the above-listed company is suspended for the period from 9:30 a.m. EST, on December 16, 2014 through 11:59 p.m. EST, on December 30, 2014.

By the Commission.

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2014-29729 Filed 12-16-14; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 8978]

Updated Call for Reviewers of the World Ocean Assessment

AGENCY: U.S. Department of State.

ACTION: Notice of a Certification.

The U.S. Department of State, in coordination with the National Ocean Council, requests expert review of the draft World Ocean Assessment.

The United Nations (UN) has embarked on a regular process for global reporting on, and assessment of, the state of the marine environment, including socioeconomic aspects, the product of which is called the World Ocean Assessment (WOA). The projected, revised completion date for the first WOA is September 2015. Subsequent WOAs are expected to be generated every five years to document trends in the state of the marine environment. The WOA includes more than fifty subjects grouped within four main themes: Marine environment and understanding of the ocean's role in the global integrated Earth system; food security and food safety; human activities that influence the ocean or are influenced by the ocean; and marine biological diversity. A scientific and technical summary will integrate content to show linkages through interdisciplinary subjects such as human impacts, ecosystem services, and habitats. More information regarding the evolution and methodology of the WOA

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and the text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).