POSTAL SERVICE

Product Change—Priority Mail and First-Class Package Service Negotiated Service Agreement

AGENCY: Postal Service™.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Postal Service gives notice of filing a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission to add a domestic shipping services contract to the list of Negotiated Service Agreements in the Mail Classification Schedule’s Competitive Products List.

DATES: Date of required notice: July 5, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elizabeth Reed, 202–268–3179.


Elizabeth Reed,
Attorney, Corporate and Postal Business Law.
[FR Doc. 2018–14434 Filed 7–3–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 7710–12–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Extension:
Regulation BTR, SEC File No. 270–521, OMB Control No. 3235–0579

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget this request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Regulation Blackout Trade Restriction (“Regulation BTR”) (17 CFR 245.100–245.104) clarifies the scope and application of Section 306(a) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (“Act”) (15 U.S.C. 7244(a)). Section 306(a)(6) [15 U.S.C. 7244(a)(6)] of the Act requires an issuer to provide timely notice to its directors and executive officers and to the Commission of the imposition of a blackout period that would trigger the statutory trading prohibition of Section 306(a)(1) [15 U.S.C. 7244(a)(1)]. Section 306(a) of the Act prohibits any director or executive officer of an issuer of any equity security, directly or indirectly, from purchasing, selling or otherwise acquiring or transferring any equity security of that issuer during any blackout period with respect to such equity security, if the director or executive officer acquired the equity security in connection with his or her service or employment. Approximately 1,230 issuers file Regulation BTR notices approximately 5 times a year for a total of 6,150 responses. We estimate that it takes approximately 2 hours to prepare the blackout notice for a total annual burden of 2,460 hours. The issuer prepares 75% of the 2,460 annual burden hours for a total reporting burden of (1,230 × 2 × 0.75) 1,845 hours. In addition, we estimate that an issuer distributes a notice to five directors and executive officers at an estimated 5 minutes per notice (1,230 blackout

period × 5 notices × 5 minutes) for a total reporting burden of 512 hours. The combined annual reporting burden is (1,845 hours + 512 hours) 2,357 hours.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

The public may view the background documentation for this information collection at the following website, www.reginfo.gov. Comments should be directed to: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, or by sending an email to: Shagufta.Ahmed@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) Pamela Dyson, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Candace Kenner, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@ sec.gov. Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: June 28, 2018.
Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–14360 Filed 7–3–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; NYSE American LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Modify the NYSE American Options Fee Schedule

June 28, 2018.

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 June 27, 2018, NYSE American LLC (the “Exchange” or “NYSE American”) 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 modify the NYSE American Options Fee Schedule (“Fee Schedule”). The Exchange proposes to implement the fee change effective June 27, 2018. The proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website 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 purpose of this filing is to modify the Fee Schedule, effective June 27, 2018, to introduce fees for the newly listed options on the NYSE FANG+ Index (“NYSE FANG+”), which will trade under the symbol FAANG. Section 1 of the Fee Schedule sets forth the rates for options transactions, both manual and electronic. The Exchange proposes to introduce fees related to transactions in NYSE FANG+ in new note 8 to Section I, Options Transaction Fees and Credits. As proposed, the Exchange would charge $0.35 per contract, per side for non-Customer NYSE FANG+ transactions, whether executed manually or electronically. However, the Exchange would not charge a fee for any NYSE FANG+ options transactions (i) on behalf of Customers or (ii) by Market Makers with an appointment in NYSE FANG+. Further, the Exchange would not impose any Marketing Charges on NYSE FANG+ options transactions or any Rights Fees upon allocation in options on NYSE FANG+. Market Makers that do not have an appointment in NYSE FANG+ will be subject to the same fee of $0.35 per contract, per side for non-Customer NYSE FANG+ transactions. However, volume in NYSE FANG+ would be included in the calculations to qualify for any volume-based incentives currently being offered on the Exchange (e.g., such monthly volume would be counted towards the Market Maker Sliding Scale program, per Section I.C., and the American Customer Engagement (“ACE”) Program, per Section I.E. of the Fee Schedule, and the Firm Monthly Fee Cap, per Section L.J.),

The Exchange believes the proposed fees for NYSE FANG+ would further the Exchange’s goal of introducing new products to the marketplace by encouraging trading in this index, in particular by encouraging Market Makers to make a market in these products, which would in turn, benefit market participants.

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 its members, issuers and other persons using its facilities and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange believes the proposal to implement fees for options on NYSE FANG+ is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory for the following reasons. The Exchange believes the proposed fees, which apply equally to electronic and manual (open outcry) transactions on behalf of non-Customers, on the one hand, and Customers, on the other hand, to be reasonable and equitable because the proposed differentiation among market participants for NYSE FANG+ fees is consistent with the manner in which the Exchange distinguishes among market participants for fee purposes in other contexts. The Exchange believes that not imposing fees for NYSE FANG+ transactions on behalf of Customers is likewise reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because Customer order flow enhances liquidity on the Exchange for the benefit of all market participants. Specifically, Customer liquidity benefits all market participants by providing more trading opportunities, which attracts Market Makers. An increase in the activity of Market Makers in turn facilitates tighter spreads, which may cause an additional corresponding increase in order flow from other market participants.

The Exchange believes that applying the same fee on all non-Customer NYSE FANG+ option transactions, other than those by Market Makers with an appointment in NYSE FANG+, is non-discriminatory because it applies to all similarly situated participants on an equal basis that opt to trade the product. Moreover, the decision to transact in NYSE FANG+ (or, for Market Makers, to seek an appointment in, and thus provide continuous quotes in, NYSE FANG+ would add liquidity to the market and provide market participants—both Customer and non-Customer alike—increased opportunities to trade options on NYSE FANG+. The Exchange believes that exempting transactions in NYSE FANG+ from the monthly Rights Fees would likewise encourage trading in NYSE FANG+ options, which increase in the availability of such options would benefit all market participants.

Further, the proposal to include any volume in NYSE FANG+ in the calculations to qualify for any volume-based incentives offered on the Exchange would further the Exchange’s

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5 The term Market Maker, as used herein, includes NYSE American Options Market Makers, Specialists, e-Specialists and Directed Order Market Makers.

6 See Fee Schedule, Sections I.A., note 3 (for description of the collection, and distribution of Marketing Fees); and Section I.I.C. (for description of the e-Specialist, DOMM and Specialist Monthly Rights Fees). See also proposed Fee Schedule, note 8 to Section I, Options Transaction Fees and Credits (providing, in part, that “Marketing Charges will not be applied to FAANG transactions”).

7 See proposed Fee Schedule, note 8 to Section I, Options Transaction Fees and Credits (providing, in part, that “[a]ny volume in FAANG will be included in the calculations to qualify for any volume-based incentives currently being offered on the Exchange”).

8 See id. (providing that non-Customers (i.e., NYSE American Options Market Makers, Firms and Broker Dealers and Professional Customers) are charged a total $0.25 per contract for manual executions, while Customers are charged $0.00 per contract for manual executions).

9 See, e.g., Rules 920NY, 925.1NY(b) and 927NY (setting forth heightened quoting obligations).
goal of introducing new products to the marketplace by encouraging trading in these products. To the extent that the proposed change incentivizes any market participants to direct their order flow to the Exchange, all market participants would benefit from increased liquidity and trading opportunities on the Exchange. Finally, the Exchange notes that offering market participants incentives to trade in certain newly offered products is not new or novel.10

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

In accordance with Section 6(b)(8) of the Act, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes the proposed transaction fees for NYSE FANG+ would not place an unfair burden on competition as it would apply to all similarly situated non-Customer/non-Market Maker participants. The Exchange also believes the proposed pricing for NYSE FANG+ is procompetitive as it would further the Exchange’s goal of introducing new products to the marketplace and encouraging Market Makers to make a market in these products, which would in turn, benefit market participants. Market participants that do not wish to trade in or seek an appointment in NYSE FANG+ are not obliged to do so.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will impair the ability of any market participants or competing order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets. Further, the fees would be applied to all similarly situated participants (i.e., non-Customers), and, as such, the proposed change would not impose a disparate burden on competition either among or between classes of market participants.

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)11 of the Act and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b–412 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)13 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 No. SR–NYSEAMER–2018–34 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.


The Exchange does not believe that 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 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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File No. SR–NYSEAMER–2018–34, and should be submitted on or before July 26, 2018.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.14

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–14362 Filed 7–3–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SEcurities AND EXChANGe COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270–347, OMB Control No. 3235–0393]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Extension:

Rule 15g–4

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (“PRA”) (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") a request for extension of the existing collection of information provided for in Rule 15g–4—Disclosure of compensation to brokers or dealers (17 CFR 240.15g–4) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78a et seq.).

Rule 15g–4 requires brokers and dealers effecting transactions in penny stocks for or with customers to disclose the amount of compensation received by the broker-dealer in connection with the transaction. The purpose of the rule is


