SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Withdrawal of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, To List and Trade Shares of Twelve Monthly Series of the Cboe Vest S&P 500 Enhanced Growth Strategy ETF Under the ETF Series Solutions Trust Under Rule 14.11(c)(3), Index Fund Shares

August 7, 2018.


The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on December 11, 2017. 3 On January 22, 2018, the Commission extended the time period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change to March 11, 2018. 4 On March 9, 2018, the Commission instituted proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act 5 to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change. 6 On April 13, 2018, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. 7 On June 6, 2018, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 2 to the proposed rule change. 8 The Commission received no comments on the proposed rule change.

On July 31, 2018, the Exchange withdraws the proposed rule change.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 9
Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–17250 Filed 8–10–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; Miami International Securities Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend Its Fee Schedule

August 7, 2018.

Pursuant to the provisions of 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 July 31, 2018, Miami International Securities Exchange LLC ("MIAX Options" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Act and Rule 19b–4 thereunder, a proposed rule change to modify certain fees to both Members and non-Members of the Exchange for connectivity to the Exchange’s primary/secondary facility. The Exchange also proposes to increase the network connectivity fees for the 1Gb and 10Gb fiber connections for connectivity to the Exchange’s disaster recovery facility.

The Exchange currently offers various bandwidth alternatives for connectivity to the Exchange, consisting of a 1Gb fiber connection, a 10Gb fiber connection, and a 10Gb ULL fiber connection. The Exchange has also proposed to increase the network connectivity fees for the 1Gb and 10Gb fiber connections for connectivity to the Exchange’s disaster recovery facility.

The Exchange currently assesses the following monthly network connectivity fees to both Members and non-Members for connectivity to the Exchange’s primary/secondary facility: (a) $1,100 for the 1Gb connection; (b) $5,500 for the 10Gb connection; and (c) $8,500.00 for the 10Gb ULL connection. The Exchange also assesses to both Members and non-Members a monthly per connection network connectivity fee of $500 for each 1Gb connection to the disaster recovery facility and a monthly per connection network connectivity fee of $2,500 for each 10Gb connection to the disaster recovery facility.

The Exchange’s MIAX Express Network Interconnect (“MENI”) can be configured to provide Members and non-Members of the Exchange network connectivity to the trading platforms, market data systems, test systems, and disaster recovery facilities of both the Exchange and its affiliate, MIAX PEARL, LLC (“MIAX PEARL”), via a single, shared connection. Members and non-Members can connect to the Exchange’s MENI, which provides faster processing of messages sent to it in comparison to the switch associated with a Trading Permit. Members are deemed “members” under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.


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

The Exchange is filing a proposal to amend the MIAX Options Fee Schedule (the “Fee Schedule”) to modify certain of the Exchange’s system connectivity fees.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at http://www.miaxoptions.com/rule-filings, at MIAX’s principal office, 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 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 Exchange 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 proposes to amend the Fee Schedule regarding connectivity to the Exchange. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend Sections 5a) and b) of the Fee Schedule to increase the network connectivity fees for the 1 Gigabit (“Gb”) fiber connection, the 10Gb fiber connection, and the 10Gb ultra-low latency (“ULL”) fiber connection, which are charged to both Members and non-Members of the Exchange for connectivity to the Exchange’s primary/secondary facility. The Exchange also proposes to increase the network connectivity fees for the 1Gb and 10Gb fiber connections for connectivity to the Exchange’s disaster recovery facility.

The Exchange currently offers various bandwidth alternatives for connectivity to the Exchange, consisting of a 1Gb fiber connection, a 10Gb fiber connection, and a 10Gb ULL fiber connection. The Exchange has also proposed to increase the network connectivity fees for the 1Gb and 10Gb fiber connections for connectivity to the Exchange’s disaster recovery facility.

The Exchange currently assesses the following monthly network connectivity fees to both Members and non-Members for connectivity to the Exchange’s primary/secondary facility: (a) $1,100 for the 1Gb connection; (b) $5,500 for the 10Gb connection; and (c) $8,500.00 for the 10Gb ULL connection. The Exchange also assesses to both Members and non-Members a monthly per connection network connectivity fee of $500 for each 1Gb connection to the disaster recovery facility and a monthly per connection network connectivity fee of $2,500 for each 10Gb connection to the disaster recovery facility.

The Exchange’s MIAX Express Network Interconnect (“MENI”) can be configured to provide Members and non-Members of the Exchange network connectivity to the trading platforms, market data systems, test systems, and disaster recovery facilities of both the Exchange and its affiliate, MIAX PEARL, LLC (“MIAX PEARL”), via a single, shared connection. Members and non-Members can connect to the Exchange’s MENI, which provides faster processing of messages sent to it in comparison to the switch associated with a Trading Permit. Members are deemed “members” under the Exchange Act. See Exchange Rule 100.

non-Members utilizing the MENI to connect to the trading platforms, market data systems, test systems and disaster recovery facilities of the Exchange and MIAX PEARL via a single, shared connection are assessed only one monthly network connectivity fee per connection, regardless of the trading platforms, market data systems, test systems, and disaster recovery facilities accessed via such connection.

The Exchange proposes to increase the monthly network connectivity fees for such connections for both Members and non-Members. The network connectivity fees for connectivity to the Exchange’s primary/secondary facility will be increased as follows: (a) from $1,100 to $1,400 for the 1Gb connection; (b) from $5,500 to $6,100 for the 10Gb connection; and (c) from $8,500 to $9,300 for the 10Gb ULL connection. The network connectivity fees for connectivity to the Exchange’s disaster recovery facility will be increased as follows: (a) from $500 to $550 for the 1Gb connection; and (b) from $2,350 to $2,750 for the 10Gb connection.

The Exchange believes that the increase in the pricing of the Exchange’s connectivity is reflective of the continued value that it provides and the increasing costs to the Exchange for providing and maintaining the necessary hardware and other infrastructure to support this technology. The Exchange notes that other exchanges have similar connectivity alternatives for their participants, including similar low-latency connectivity. For example, Nasdaq PHXL LLC (“Phlx”), NYSE Arca, Inc. (“Arca”), NYSE American LLC (“NYSE American”) and Nasdaq ISE, LLC (“ISE”) all offer a 1Gb, 10Gb and 10Gb low latency ethernet connectivity alternatives to each of their participants.\(^4\) The Exchange further notes that Phlx, ISE, Arca and NYSE American each charge higher rates for such similar connectivity to primary and secondary facilities.\(^5\) Additionally, the Exchange’s proposed connectivity fees to its disaster recovery facility are within the range of the fees charged by other exchanges for similar connectivity alternatives.\(^6\) The Exchange believes that it is appropriate to increase its fees charged for use of its connectivity to offset increasing costs associated with providing and maintaining the necessary hardware and other infrastructure to support this technology and also to more closely align its fees with the rates charged by competing options exchanges.

The Exchange proposes to implement the proposed changes to the Fee Schedule effective as of August 1, 2018.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal to amend its Fee Schedule is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act\(^7\) in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4) of the Act\(^8\) in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among Exchange Members and issuers and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls. The Exchange also believes the proposal furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act\(^9\) in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customer, issuers, brokers and dealers.

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act because the fees assessed for connectivity allow the Exchange to cover the costs associated with providing and maintaining the necessary hardware and other infrastructure to support this technology. The Exchange believes that the proposal to increase the fees for connectivity alternatives is fair, equitable and not unreasonably discriminatory.\(^10\) As discussed above, Phlx and ISE each offer different connections with respect to latency, and Arca and NYSE American both offer similar connectivity alternatives.\(^11\) Despite this, Phlx, ISE, Arca and NYSE American charge a higher fee than the Exchange currently charges for similar connections to primary and secondary facilities.\(^12\) Furthermore, the connectivity fees for the disaster recovery facilities of other exchanges are within the range of the proposed fees of the Exchange.\(^13\) For these reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed increase in the fees for the fiber connectivity to the Exchange is reasonable and not unfairly discriminatory.

The Exchange also believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act\(^14\) because all MIAX Options participants have the opportunity to subscribe to the Exchange’s connections. There is also no differentiation among MIAX Options participants with regard to the fees charged for these services.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule changes will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. On the contrary, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes should increase both intermarket and intramarket competition. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the changes will promote competition by increasing the connectivity fees to become more within the range of comparable fees assessed by other competing exchanges.

The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes reflect this competitive environment. To the extent that this purpose is achieved, all the Exchange’s market participants should benefit from the improved market liquidity.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

\(^{4}\) See Phlx and ISE Rules, General Equity and Options Rules, General 8, Section 1(b), Phlx and ISE each charge a monthly fee of $2,500 for each 1Gb connection, $10,000 for each 10Gb connection and $15,000 for each 10Gb Ultra connection, which is the equivalent of the Exchange’s 10Gb ULL connection. See also NYSE American Fee Schedule, Section VII.B, and Arca Fees and Charges, Co-Location Fees. NYSE American and Arca each charge a monthly fee of $5,000 for each 1Gb circuit, $14,000 for each 10Gb circuit and $22,000 for each 10Gb LX circuit, which is the equivalent of the Exchange’s 10Gb ULL connection.

\(^{5}\) Id.

\(^{6}\) See Nasdaq ISE Schedule of Fees, IX(D) (charging $3,000 for disaster recovery testing & relocation services); see also Choe Exchange, Inc. (“Choe”) Fees Schedule, p. 14, Choe Command Connectivity Charges (charging a monthly fee of $2,000 for a 1Gb disaster recovery network access port and a monthly fee of $6,000 for a 10Gb disaster recovery network access port).


\(^{10}\) See supra note 4.

\(^{11}\) Id.

\(^{12}\) See supra note 6.

\(^{13}\) 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

\(^{14}\) See supra note 4.
III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act, and Rule 19b–4(f)(2) thereunder. 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule 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–MIAX–2018–19 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–MIAX–2018–19. 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 website (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 website 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 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 Number SR–MIAX–2018–19 and should be submitted on or before September 4, 2018.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.17

Eduardo A. Aleman, Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–17252 Filed 8–10–18; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meetings

TIME AND DATE: 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 2, 2018.

PLACE: Closed Commission Hearing Room 10800.

STATUS: This meeting will be closed to the public.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED: Commissioners, Counsel to the Commissioners, the Secretary to the Commission, and recording secretaries will attend the closed meeting. Certain staff members who have an interest in the matters also may be present.

The General Counsel of the Commission, or his designee, has certified that, in his opinion, one or more of the exemptions set forth in 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(3), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9)(B) and (10) and 17 CFR 200.402(a)(3), (a)(5), (a)(6), (a)(7), (a)(8), (a)(9)(ii) and (a)(10), permit consideration of the scheduled matters at the closed meeting.

Commissioner Peirce, as duty officer, voted to consider the items listed for the closed meeting in closed session.

The subject matters of the closed meeting will be:
- Institution and settlement of injunctive actions;
- Institution and settlement of administrative proceedings;
- Resolution of litigation claims; and
- Other matters relating to enforcement proceedings.

At times, changes in Commission priorities require alterations in the scheduling of meeting items.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: For further information and to ascertain what, if any, matters have been added, deleted or postponed; please contact Brent J. Fields from the Office of the Secretary at (202) 551–5400.

Dated: July 26, 2018.
Brent J. Fields, Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018–17391 Filed 8–9–18; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION


Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Options Regulatory Fee

August 7, 2018.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),1 and Rule 19b–4 thereof,2 notice is hereby given that on July 27, 2018, Nasdaq GEMX, LLC (“GEMX” or “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 Exchange. 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 revise GEMX’s Schedule of Fees to amend its Options Regulatory Fee or “ORF”.

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated the amendments become operative on August 1, 2018.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at http://nasdaqgemx.ichewllstreet.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 Exchange included statements