

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁶ provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day after publication of the notice for the proposed rule change is effectively May 7, 2021.

The Commission is extending the 45-day time period for Commission action on the proposed rule change. The Commission finds that it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider and take action on the proposed rule change.

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁷ and for the reasons stated above, the Commission designates June 21, 2021 as the date by which the Commission shall either approve, disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change (File No. SR–NSCC–2021–002).

The Commission also seeks to extend the comment period to help further inform its analysis of the proposed rule change. The comment period for the proposed rule change ended on April 14, 2021.⁸ As of May 5, 2021, the Commission has received numerous comment letters to the proposed rule change.⁹ The Commission is extending the comment period for the proposed rule change to allow interested persons additional time to analyze the issues and prepare their comments. Accordingly, the Commission designates May 31, 2021 as the date comments should be submitted on or before.

Specifically, the Commission invites interested persons to provide views, data, and arguments concerning the proposed rule change, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the applicable rules or regulations

date, the comments received generally support the proposal.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ Notice of Filing, *supra* note 4, 86 FR at 15738.

⁹ See *supra* note 5. The comments received generally support the proposal, although they do not generally provide substantive analysis of the proposal.

thereunder. Please note that comments previously received on the substance of the proposed rule change will be considered together with comments submitted in response to this notice. Therefore, while commenters are free to submit additional comments at this time, they need not re-submit earlier comments.

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–NSCC–2021–002 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–NSCC–2021–002. 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 NSCC and on DTCC's website (<http://dtcc.com/legal/sec-rule-filings.aspx>). 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–NSCC–2021–002 and should be submitted on or before June 2, 2021.

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

Jill M. Peterson,

Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–91784; File No. SR–CboeEDGA–2021–012]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Fee Schedule

May 6, 2021.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on May 3, 2021, Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “EDGA”) 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

Cboe EDGA Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “EDGA”) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) a proposed rule change to amend the fee schedule. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/edga/), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, 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

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(31).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

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 its fee schedule by eliminating Tier 2 of the Remove Volume Tiers.

The Exchange first notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or incentives to be insufficient. More specifically, the Exchange is only one of 16 registered equities exchanges, as well as a number of alternative trading systems and other off-exchange venues that do not have similar self-regulatory responsibilities under the Exchange Act, to which market participants may direct their order flow. Based on publicly available information,³ no single registered equities exchange has more than 15% of the market share. Thus, in such a low-concentrated and highly competitive market, no single equities exchange possesses significant pricing power in the execution of order flow. The Exchange believes that the ever-shifting market share among the exchanges from month to month demonstrates that market participants can shift order flow or discontinue to reduce use of certain categories of products, in response to fee changes. Accordingly, competitive forces constrain the Exchange's transaction fees, and market participants can readily trade on competing venues if they deem pricing levels at those other venues to be more favorable. Additionally, in response to the competitive environment, the Exchange offers tiered pricing which provides Members opportunities to qualify for higher rebates or reduced fees where certain volume criteria and thresholds are met. Tiered pricing provides an incremental incentive for Members to strive for higher tier levels, which provides increasingly higher benefits or discounts for satisfying increasingly more stringent criteria.

Pursuant to footnote 7 of the Fee Schedule, the Exchange offers Remove Volume Tiers that provide a rebate to

Members meeting certain volume thresholds. Specifically, Tier 2 currently provides an opportunity for Members to receive an enhanced rebate of \$0.0028 per share for qualifying liquidity removing orders (*i.e.*, yielding fee codes N,⁴ W,⁵ 6,⁶ and BB⁷), where a Member adds or removes an ADV⁸ greater than or equal to 0.65% of the TCV.⁹ Now, the Exchange proposes to eliminate Tier 2 of the Remove Volume Tiers. The Exchange no longer believes Tier 2 is necessary and notes the Exchange is not required to maintain such an incentive. Further, the Exchange would rather redirect future resources and funding into other programs and tiers intended to incentivize increased order flow.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act,¹⁰ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4),¹¹ in particular, as it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and issuers and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)¹² requirements that the rules of an exchange be 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 regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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, particularly, is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

⁴ Fee code N is appended to orders removing liquidity from EDGA (Tape C).

⁵ Fee code W is appended to orders removing liquidity from EDGA (Tape A).

⁶ Fee code 6 is appended to orders removing liquidity from EDGA, pre and post market (All Tapes).

⁷ Fee code BB is appended to orders removing liquidity from EDGA (Tape B).

⁸ ADV means daily volume calculated as the number of shares added to, removed from, or routed by, the Exchange, or any combination or subset thereof, per day. ADV is calculated on a monthly basis.

⁹ TCV means total consolidated volume calculated as the volume reported by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities to a consolidated transaction reporting plan for the month for which the fees apply.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

The Exchange operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or incentives to be insufficient. The proposed rule change reflects a competitive pricing structure designed to incentivize market participants to direct their order flow to the Exchange, which the Exchange believes would enhance market quality to the benefit of all Members.

In particular, the Exchange believes eliminating Tier 2 of the Remove Volume Tiers is reasonable because the Exchange is not required to maintain such a tier, and Members still have a number of other opportunities and a variety of ways to receive enhanced rebates. Moreover, as noted above, the Exchange would rather redirect future resources and funding into other programs and tiers intended to incentivize increased order flow. The Exchange believes the proposal to eliminate Tier 2 of the Remove Volume Tiers is also equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it applies to all Members.

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. Particularly, the Exchange does not believe the proposal to eliminate Tier 2 of the Remove Volume Tiers will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because the proposed change applies to all Members equally, in that no Member will continue to be eligible for the tier. As discussed above, the Exchange is not required to maintain such an incentive. Also, as previously discussed, the Exchange operates in a highly competitive market. Members have numerous alternative venues that they may participate on and director their order flow, including 15 other options exchanges and off-exchange venues. Additionally, the Exchange represents a small percentage of the overall market. Based on publicly available information, no single options exchange has more than 15% of the market share.¹³ Therefore, no exchange possesses significant pricing power in the execution of option order flow. Indeed, participants can readily choose to send their orders to other exchange and off-exchange venues if they deem fee levels

³ See Cboe Global Markets, U.S. Equities Market Volume Summary, Month-to-Date (April 26, 2021), available at https://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/market_statistics/.

¹³ See supra note 3.

at those other venues to be more favorable. Moreover, the Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Specifically, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system “has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies.”¹⁴ The fact that this market is competitive has also long been recognized by the courts. In *NetCoalition v. Securities and Exchange Commission*, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: “[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is ‘fierce.’ . . . As the SEC explained, ‘[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution’; [and] ‘no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted’ because ‘no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers’”¹⁵ Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe its proposed fee change imposes 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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

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) of the Act¹⁶ and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4¹⁷ 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 will institute proceedings 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-CboeEDGA-2021-012 on the subject line.

Paper Comment

- 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-CboeEDGA-2021-012. 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-CboeEDGA-2021-012 and should be submitted on or before June 2, 2021.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁸

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-91798; File No. SBSDR-2020-01]

Security-Based Swap Data Repositories; DTCC Data Repository (U.S.), LLC; Order Approving Application for Registration as a Security-Based Swap Data Repository

May 7, 2021.

I. Introduction

On December 22, 2020, DTCC Data Repository (U.S.), LLC (“DDR”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) an application (the “DDR Application”) on Form SDR to register as a security-based swap data repository (“SDR”) pursuant to Section 13(n)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”) and 17 CFR 240.13n-1 (“Rule 13n-1”) thereunder,¹ and as a securities information processor (“SIP”) under Section 11A(b) of the Exchange Act.² DDR intends to operate as a registered SDR for security-based swap (“SBS”) transactions in the equity, credit, and interest rate derivatives asset classes.³

The Commission published notice of the DDR Application in the **Federal Register** for public comment on February 10, 2021,⁴ and the

¹⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78m(n)(1); 17 CFR 240.13n-1. A copy of DDR’s application on Form SDR and non-confidential exhibits thereto are available for public viewing on the Commission’s website. In 2016, DDR submitted a prior application for registration as an SDR. See Release No. 34-78216 (June 30, 2016), 81 FR 44379 (July 7, 2016); Release No. 34-81302 (Aug. 3, 2017), 82 FR 37276 (Aug. 9, 2017). DDR withdrew this prior application in 2018. See Letter from Chris Childs, Managing Director, DDR, Mar. 27, 2018, <https://www.sec.gov/divisions/marketreg/sdr/dtcc-sdr-application-withdrawal-letter-032718.pdf>.

² 15 U.S.C. 78k-1(b).

³ DDR has included the interest rate asset class in its application based on feedback from potential users of its SDR services. The potential users have identified certain types of transactions that will be reported through DDR’s infrastructure for interest rate derivatives as falling within the Exchange Act definition of an SBS transaction.

⁴ Release No. 34-91071 (Feb. 5, 2021), 86 FR 8977 (Feb. 10, 2021) (“DDR Notice”).

¹⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005).

¹⁵ *NetCoalition v. SEC*, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSEArca-2006-21)).

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).