| Required fiel | OMB Number: 3235-0045 Estimated average burden hours per response | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Page 1 of * | 17 SECUR | ITIES AND EXCH WASHINGTON Form 1 | , D.C. 20549 | | File No. Iment No. (req. for | * SR - 2015 - * 22 Amendments *) | |
| Filing by ISE Gemini, LLC | | | | | | | |
| Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 | | | | | | | |
| Initial * ✓ | Amendment * Withdra | awal Sec | xtion 19(b)(2) * | Section | n 19(b)(3)(A) * Rule | Section 19(b)(3)(B) * | |
| 1 1101 | xtension of Time Period r Commission Action * | Expires * | | 19b-4(f)(19b-4(f)(19b-4(f)(| 2) 19b-4(f)(5) | | |
| Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010 Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant | | | | | | | |
| Section 806(e)(1) * Section 806(e)(2) * | | | | | to the Securities Ex Section 3C(b) | - | |
| Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document | | | | | | | |
| Description | | | | | | | |
| Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). | | | | | | | |
| Proposal to extend a pilot program under regarding obvious errors during Limit and Straddle States in securities that underlie options traded on the Exchange and proposal to further harmonize a related provision in its rulebook. | | | | | | | |
| Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action. | | | | | | | |
| First Nam | e * Michael | Last | Name * Sanocki | | | | |
| Title * | Title * Assistant General Counsel | | | | | | |
| E-mail * | E-mail * msanocki@ise.com | | | | | | |
| Telephone * (212) 897-8144 Fax | | | | | | | |
| Signature | | | | | | | |
| Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, | | | | | | | |
| has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized. | | | | | | | |
| (Title *) | | | | | | | |
| Date 10/ | 20/2015 | Secre | tary & General C | ounsel | | | |
| By Mic | ichael Simon | | | | | | |
| (Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed. | | | Persona Not Validated - 1434392700842, | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

OMB APPROVAL

| SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|
| For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. | | | | | |
| Form 19b-4 Information * Add Remove View | The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. | | | | |
| Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * Add Remove View | The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) | | | | |
| Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * Add Remove View | The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) | | | | |
| Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document | Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. | | | | |
| Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document | Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change. | | | | |
| Exhibit 4 - Marked CopiesAddRemoveView | The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. | | | | |
| Add Remove View | The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change. | | | | |
| Partial Amendment Add Remove View | If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions. | | | | |

1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) ISE Gemini, LLC (the "Exchange" or "ISE Gemini") proposes to extend a pilot program under .01 of Supplementary Material to Rule 720 regarding obvious errors during Limit and Straddle States in securities that underlie options traded on the Exchange and proposes to further harmonize a related provision in its rulebook. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The Board of Directors of the Exchange approved this proposed rule change on November 15, 2012. This action constitutes the requisite approval under the Exchange's Certificate of Formation, Operating Agreement and Constitution.

3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose</u> of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

(a) <u>Purpose</u> – On July 26, 2013,¹ the Commission approved the Exchange's Form 1 application for registration as a national securities exchange. The Form 1 application included a rule designed to address certain issues related to the Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility Pursuant to Rule 608 of Regulation NMS under the Act (the "Limit Up-Limit Down Plan" or the "Plan").² The rules adopted in that application established a pilot program to exclude transactions executed during a Limit State³ or Straddle State⁴ from the obvious error provisions of Rule 720. On February 19, 2015, the Exchange filed to extend this pilot program to its current end date of October 23, 2015.⁵ The purpose of this filing is to extend the effectiveness of the pilot program to coincide

³ The term "Limit State" means the condition when the national best bid or national best offer for an underlying security equals an applicable price band, as determined by the primary listing exchange for the underlying security. <u>See</u> Rule 703A.

⁴ The term "Straddle State" means the condition when the national best bid or national best offer for an underlying security is non-executable, as determined by the primary listing exchange for the underlying security, but the security is not in a Limit State. <u>See</u> Rule 703A.

¹ The Securities and Exchange Commission granted the Exchange's application for registration as a national securities exchange on July 26, 2013. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. Release No. 70050 (July 26, 2013), 78 FR 46622 (Aug. 1, 2013).

² See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67091 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33498 (June 6, 2012) (the "Limit Up-Limit Down Release").

⁵ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74311 (February 19, 2015), 80 FR 10175 (February 25, 2015) (SR-ISE Gemini-2015-05).

with the proposed extension of the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan, including any extensions to the pilot period for the Plan. ⁶ The Exchange notes that nothing in .01 of Supplementary Material to Rule 720 prevents such execution from being reviewed on an Official's⁷ own motion pursuant to sub-paragraph (c)(3) of this Rule, or a bust or adjust pursuant to paragraphs (e) through (j) of this Rule.

The Exchange believes the benefits to market participants from this provision should continue on a pilot basis. The Exchange continues to believe that adding certainty to the execution of orders in Limit or Straddle States will encourage market participants to continue to provide liquidity to the Exchange, and, thus, promote a fair and orderly market during these periods. Barring this provision, the obvious error provisions of Rule 720 would likely apply in many instances during Limit and Straddle States. The Exchange believes that continuing the pilot will protect against any unanticipated consequences in the options markets during a Limit or Straddle State. Thus, the Exchange believes that the protections of current rule should continue while the industry gains further experience operating the Plan.

In connection with this proposed extension, each month the Exchange shall provide to the Commission, and the public, a dataset containing the data for each Straddle and Limit State in optionable stocks that had at least one trade on the Exchange. For each trade on the Exchange, the Exchange will provide (a) the stock symbol, option symbol, time at the start of the Straddle or Limit State, an indicator for whether it is a Straddle or Limit State, and (b) for the trades on the Exchange, the executed volume, time-weighted quoted bid-ask spread, time-weighted average quoted depth at the bid, time-weighted average quoted depth at the offer, high execution price, low execution price, number of trades for which a request for review for error was received during Straddle and Limit States, an indicator variable for whether those options outlined above have a price change exceeding 30% during the underlying stock's Limit or Straddle State compared to the last available option price as reported by OPRA before the start of the Limit or Straddle State (1 if observe 30% and 0 otherwise), and another indicator variable for whether the option price within five minutes of the underlying stock leaving the Limit or Straddle State (or halt if applicable) is 30% away from the price before the start of the Limit or Straddle State.

In addition, the Exchange will provide to the Commission, and the public, no later than five months prior to the pilot expiration, including any extension, assessments relating to the impact of the operation of the obvious error rules during Limit and Straddle States including: (1) an evaluation of the statistical and economic impact of Limit and Straddle States on liquidity and market quality in the options markets, and (2) an assessment of whether the lack of obvious error rules in effect during the Straddle and Limit States are problematic. This means that, if the Plan extension is approved, the next data assessment will be due no later than December 18, 2015.

⁶ Currently, the pilot period for the Plan is proposed to be extended to April 22, 2016. <u>See</u> Exchange Act Release No. 75917 (September 14, 2015), 80 FR 56515 (September 18, 2015) (Ninth Amendment to the Limit-Up Limit-Down Plan).

⁷ For purposes of Rule 720, an Official is an Officer of the Exchange or such other employee designee of the Exchange that is trained in the application of this Rule.

Finally, the Exchange proposes to delete section (d) of Rule 703A to harmonize its rulebook. Earlier this year, the options exchanges harmonized their rules relating to the adjustment and nullification of erroneous options transactions as well as a specific provision related to coordination in connection with large-scale events involving erroneous options transactions.⁸ The Exchange inadvertently did not remove section (d) to Rule 703A from its rulebook in this filing. This section (d) duplicates .01 of Supplementary Material to Rule 720, and as such, the Exchange proposes to delete it.

(b) <u>Basis</u> – The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.⁹ In particular, the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁰ because it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)¹¹ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange further believes that it is necessary and appropriate in the interest of promoting fair and orderly markets to exclude transactions executed during a Limit or Straddle State from certain aspects of Rule 720. The Exchange believes the application of the current rule will be impracticable given the lack of a reliable national best bid or offer in the options market during Limit and Straddle States, and that the resulting actions (i.e., nullified trades or adjusted prices) may not be appropriate given market conditions. Extending this pilot to coincide with the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan would ensure that limit orders that are filled during a Limit or Straddle State would have certainty of execution in a manner that promotes just and equitable principles of trade, removes impediments to, and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. Thus, the Exchange believes that the protections of the pilot should continue while the industry gains further experience operating the Plan. Finally, the Exchange proposes to delete section (d) of Rule 703A to harmonize its rulebook to prevent investor confusion.

4. 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, by extending the expiration of the pilot, the proposed rule change will allow for further analysis of the pilot and a determination of how the pilot shall be structured in the future. In doing so, the proposed

⁸ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74897 (May 7, 2015), 80 FR 27415 (May 13, 2015) (SR-ISE Gemini-2015-11).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹¹ <u>Id</u>.

rule change will also serve to promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace and facilitating investor protection.

5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not Applicable.

Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act,¹² and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹³ thereunder, the Exchange has designated this proposal as one that effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The proposed rule change allows for an extension of the Limit Up-Limit Down obvious error pilot for the benefit of market participants, and allows for continued analysis of how the pilot should be structured in the future. Furthermore, the Exchange notes that the pilot is an industry wide initiative being undertaken in concert with other options markets. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change qualifies as a "non-controversial" rule change. A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), however, permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange respectfully requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposed rule change may become effective and operative upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁴ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁵ Waiver of the operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest as it will allow the Exchange to immediately extend the pilot prior to expiration on October 23, 2015. The Exchange believes that allowing the pilot to continue at this time will result in the least amount of market disruption for market participants.

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file 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. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

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: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) 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.

8. <u>Proposed Rule change Based on Rules of Another</u> Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

The proposed rule change is not based on the rules of another self-regulatory organization.

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

10. <u>Advanced Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and</u> <u>Settlement Supervision Act</u>

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

<u>Exhibit 1</u> – Form of Notice of Proposed Rule Change for Publication in the Federal Register.

Exhibit 5 – Text of the proposed rule change.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-ISE Gemini-2015-22)

[Date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Limit Up-Limit Down Obvious Error Pilot

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 October 20, 2015, ISE Gemini, LLC (the "Exchange" or "ISE Gemini") filed with the Securities and Exchange 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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the</u> <u>Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

ISE Gemini proposes to extend a pilot program under .01 of Supplementary Material to Rule 720 regarding obvious errors during Limit and Straddle States in securities that underlie options traded on the Exchange and proposes to further harmonize a related provision in its rulebook. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (<u>http://www.ise.com</u>), at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose</u> 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 these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The selfregulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose</u> of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

On July 26, 2013,³ the Commission approved the Exchange's Form 1 application for registration as a national securities exchange. The Form 1 application included a rule designed to address certain issues related to the Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility Pursuant to Rule 608 of Regulation NMS under the Act (the "Limit Up-Limit Down Plan" or the "Plan").⁴ The rules adopted in that application established a pilot program to exclude transactions executed during a Limit State⁵ or Straddle State⁶ from the obvious error provisions of Rule 720. On February 19, 2015, the Exchange filed to

³ The Securities and Exchange Commission granted the Exchange's application for registration as a national securities exchange on July 26, 2013. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. Release No. 70050 (July 26, 2013), 78 FR 46622 (Aug. 1, 2013).

⁴ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67091 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33498 (June 6, 2012) (the "Limit Up-Limit Down Release").

⁵ The term "Limit State" means the condition when the national best bid or national best offer for an underlying security equals an applicable price band, as determined by the primary listing exchange for the underlying security. <u>See</u> Rule 703A.

⁶ The term "Straddle State" means the condition when the national best bid or national best offer for an underlying security is non-executable, as determined by the primary listing exchange for the underlying security, but the security is not in a Limit State. <u>See</u> Rule 703A.

Page 10 of 17

extend this pilot program to its current end date of October 23, 2015.⁷ The purpose of this filing is to extend the effectiveness of the pilot program to coincide with the proposed extension of the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan, including any extensions to the pilot period for the Plan.⁸ The Exchange notes that nothing in .01 of Supplementary Material to Rule 720 prevents such execution from being reviewed on an Official's⁹ own motion pursuant to sub-paragraph (c)(3) of this Rule, or a bust or adjust pursuant to paragraphs (e) through (j) of this Rule.

The Exchange believes the benefits to market participants from this provision should continue on a pilot basis. The Exchange continues to believe that adding certainty to the execution of orders in Limit or Straddle States will encourage market participants to continue to provide liquidity to the Exchange, and, thus, promote a fair and orderly market during these periods. Barring this provision, the obvious error provisions of Rule 720 would likely apply in many instances during Limit and Straddle States. The Exchange believes that continuing the pilot will protect against any unanticipated consequences in the options markets during a Limit or Straddle State. Thus, the Exchange believes that the protections of current rule should continue while the industry gains further experience operating the Plan.

In connection with this proposed extension, each month the Exchange shall provide to the Commission, and the public, a dataset containing the data for each Straddle and Limit State in optionable stocks that had at least one trade on the Exchange. For each

⁷ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74311 (February 19, 2015), 80 FR 10175 (February 25, 2015) (SR-ISE Gemini-2015-05).

⁸ Currently, the pilot period for the Plan is proposed to be extended to April 22, 2016. <u>See</u> Exchange Act Release No. 75917 (September 14, 2015), 80 FR 56515 (September 18, 2015) (Ninth Amendment to the Limit-Up Limit-Down Plan).

⁹ For purposes of Rule 720, an Official is an Officer of the Exchange or such other employee designee of the Exchange that is trained in the application of this Rule.

Page 11 of 17

trade on the Exchange, the Exchange will provide (a) the stock symbol, option symbol, time at the start of the Straddle or Limit State, an indicator for whether it is a Straddle or Limit State, and (b) for the trades on the Exchange, the executed volume, time-weighted quoted bid-ask spread, time-weighted average quoted depth at the bid, time-weighted average quoted depth at the offer, high execution price, low execution price, number of trades for which a request for review for error was received during Straddle and Limit States, an indicator variable for whether those options outlined above have a price change exceeding 30% during the underlying stock's Limit or Straddle State compared to the last available option price as reported by OPRA before the start of the Limit or Straddle State (1 if observe 30% and 0 otherwise), and another indicator variable for whether the option price within five minutes of the underlying stock leaving the Limit or Straddle State (or halt if applicable) is 30% away from the price before the start of the Limit or Straddle State.

In addition, the Exchange will provide to the Commission, and the public, no later than five months prior to the pilot expiration, including any extension, assessments relating to the impact of the operation of the obvious error rules during Limit and Straddle States including: (1) an evaluation of the statistical and economic impact of Limit and Straddle States on liquidity and market quality in the options markets, and (2) an assessment of whether the lack of obvious error rules in effect during the Straddle and Limit States are problematic. This means that, if the Plan extension is approved, the next data assessment will be due no later than December 18, 2015.

Finally, the Exchange proposes to delete section (d) of Rule 703A to harmonize its rulebook. Earlier this year, the options exchanges harmonized their rules relating to the adjustment and nullification of erroneous options transactions as well as a specific

Page 12 of 17

provision related to coordination in connection with large-scale events involving erroneous options transactions.¹⁰ The Exchange inadvertently did not remove section (d) to Rule 703A from its rulebook in this filing. This section (d) duplicates .01 of Supplementary Material to Rule 720, and as such, the Exchange proposes to delete it.

2. Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.¹¹ In particular, the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹² because it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to and perfect the mechanisms of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section $6(b)(5)^{13}$ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

In particular, the Exchange further believes that it is necessary and appropriate in the interest of promoting fair and orderly markets to exclude transactions executed during a Limit or Straddle State from certain aspects of Rule 720. The Exchange believes the application of the current rule will be impracticable given the lack of a reliable national best bid or offer in the options market during Limit and Straddle States, and that the resulting actions (i.e., nullified trades or adjusted prices) may not be appropriate given

¹⁰ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 74897 (May 7, 2015), 80 FR 27415 (May 13, 2015) (SR-ISE Gemini-2015-11).

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹³ <u>Id</u>.

Page 13 of 17

market conditions. Extending this pilot to coincide with the Limit Up-Limit Down Plan would ensure that limit orders that are filled during a Limit or Straddle State would have certainty of execution in a manner that promotes just and equitable principles of trade, removes impediments to, and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. Thus, the Exchange believes that the protections of the pilot should continue while the industry gains further experience operating the Plan. Finally, the Exchange proposes to delete section (d) of Rule 703A to harmonize its rulebook to prevent investor confusion.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's</u> <u>Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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, by extending the expiration of the pilot, the proposed rule change will allow for further analysis of the pilot and a determination of how the pilot shall be structured in the future. In doing so, the proposed rule change will also serve to promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace and facilitating investor protection.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on</u> <u>Comments on the Proposed Rule Change</u> <u>Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any unsolicited written comments from members or other interested parties.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule</u> Change and Timing for Commission Action

The Exchange believes that the foregoing proposed rule change may take effect upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Section19(b)(3)(A)¹⁴ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder¹⁵ because the foregoing 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 for 30 days after its filing date, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate. The Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing the proposed rule change.

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: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) 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:

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form <u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml);</u> or
- Send an E-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-ISE
 Gemini-2015-22 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE Gamini-2015-22. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail 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 Commissions 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. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of ISE Gemini. 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-ISE Gemini-2015-22 and should be submitted by [insert date 21 days from the date of publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁶

Secretary

¹⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Exhibit 5 Text of the Proposed Rule Change <u>Underlining</u> indicates additions; [brackets] indicate deletions.

* *

Rule 703A Trading During Limit Up-Limit Down States in Underlying Securities

(a) - (c) No change.

[(d) Obvious Errors. The provisions of Rule 720 shall not apply to transactions executed during a Limit State or Straddle State during a pilot period ending October 23, 2015.]

* * *

Rule 720. Nullification and Adjustment of Options Transactions including Obvious Errors

* * *

Supplementary Material to Rule 720

.01 Limit Up-Limit Down State. During a pilot period set to <u>coincide with</u> <u>the pilot period for the Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility Pursuant to</u> <u>Rule 608 of Regulation NMS under the Act (the "Plan"), including any extensions</u> <u>to the pilot period for the Plan,</u> [end on October 23, 2015,] an execution will not be subject to review as an Obvious Error or Catastrophic Error pursuant to paragraph (c) or (d) of this Rule if it occurred while the underlying security was in a "Limit State" or "Straddle State," as defined in the Plan [to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility Pursuant to Rule 608 of Regulation NMS under the Act (the "Limit Up-Limit Down Plan")]. Nothing in this provision shall prevent such execution from being reviewed on an Official's own motion pursuant to subparagraph (c)(3) of this Rule, or a bust or adjust pursuant to paragraphs (e) through (j) of this Rule.

* * *