Page 1 of * <mark>21</mark>		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4			File No. * SR 2022 - * 08 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)		
Filing by Naso	daq GEMX, LLC						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2)	* Section 19(b)(3	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *		
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		Rule 19b-4(f)(1) 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(3)	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010 Section 806(e)(1) * Section 806(e)(2) * Section 806(e)(2) * Section 3C(b)(2) *					Submission pursuant to the Act of 1934		
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 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 *). A proposal to amend the Exchanges port-related fees at Options 7, Section 6							
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 Name	* Katie	Last Name * Hopk	ins				
Title *	Associate General Counsel						
E-mail *	katie.hopkins@nasdaq.com						
Telephone '	(301) 232-4067	Fax					
Signature Pursuant to has duty ca	the requirements of the Securities used this filing to be signed on its t	Exchange of 1934, Nasdaq GE pehalf by the undersigned thereul	MX, LLC nto duty authorized.				
Date	09/01/2022		(Title *))			
Ву	John Zecca	EVP a	and Chief Legal Offic	er			
	(Name *)						
form. A digital	NOTE: Clicking the signature block at right will initiate digitally signing the form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed. Date: 2022.09.01 12:16:44 -04'00'						

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information *						
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SR-GEMX-2022-08 19b-4.doc						

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

SR-GEMX-2022-08 Exhibit 1.doc

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 Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies *

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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 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

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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 Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

Add Remove View

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 Copies

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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.

Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text

Add Remove View

SR-GEMX-2022-08 Exhibit 5.doc

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.

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

(a) Nasdaq GEMX, LLC ("GEMX" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to amend the Exchange's port-related fees at Options 7, Section 6, as described further below.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u>. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

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

2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board"). Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

Katie Hopkins Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 301-232-4067

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

a. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend Options 7, Section 6 to (i) prorate port fees for the first month of service, (ii) clarify that port fees for cancelled services will continue to be charged for the remainder of month, (iii) clarify that Disaster Recovery Port Fees are not charged for market data ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii), and (iv) clarify that Nasdaq Testing Facility ("NTF") ports are provided at no cost.

Currently, the Exchange does not prorate port connectivity fees. Thus, participants are assessed a full month's fee if they direct the Exchange to make the subscribed connectivity live on any day of the month, including the last day thereof. Participants are also assessed a full month's port fee if they cancel service during the month.

The Exchange proposes to provide prorated port fees for the first month of service for new requests. By prorating the first month's fees, the Exchange would charge participants port fees only for the days in which the participants are connected to the Exchange during the first month of service. The Exchange proposes to continue the current practice of charging port fees for the remainder of the month upon cancellation. If a participant starts and cancels service in the same month, the participant would not be billed for those days prior to the service start date but would be billed for the remainder of the month, including after the service is cancelled.³

For example, if a participant orders a port on September 4, 2022 and cancels the port on September 16, 2022, the participant would be charged the prorated port fee for September 5, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

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The Exchange believes it is important for participants to have the option to establish new connections to the Exchange at any time during the month without being hampered by a full month charge irrespective of when during the month service begins. Moreover, other exchanges also charge new ports on a prorated basis for the first month of service.⁴

The Exchange also proposes to make clarifying changes to Options 7, Section 6C(iv). First, the Exchange proposes to clarify that Disaster Recovery Port Fees are not charged for the ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii). The market data ports in Options 7, Section 6C(iii) are provided at no cost and the Exchange does not charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for these ports. Second, the Exchange proposes to clarify the Exchange's existing practice that NTF Ports are provided at no cost. The NTF provides subscribers with a virtual System test environment that closely approximates the production environment on which they may test their automated systems that integrate with the Exchange. For example, the NTF provides subscribers a virtual System environment for testing upcoming releases and product enhancements, as well as testing firm software prior to implementation. The Exchange proposes adding express language in the Rules to provide increased clarity to market participants.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁶ in

See, e.g., Cboe BZX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule, available at https://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/membership/fee_schedule/bzx/; New York Stock Exchange Price List 2022, available at https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/markets/nyse/NYSE Price List.pdf.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

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particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange's proposed changes to its port fee schedule are reasonable in several respects. As a threshold matter, the Exchange is subject to significant competitive forces in the market for options and equity securities transaction services that constrain its pricing determinations in that market. The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, 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."

The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to prorate port fees for the first month of connectivity. As discussed above, the Exchange believes it is important for participants to have the flexibility to establish new connections to the Exchange at any time during the month without being hampered by a full month charge. For example, the Exchange believes it is reasonable to charge a user who begins a subscription on the last day of the month to be charged only for use of a port for that day. As noted above, other exchanges already charge their customers for new ports on a prorated basis for the first

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

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month of service.⁸ The proposed language describing the Exchange's practice to bill for the remainder of the month upon cancellation is intended only to clarify the existing practice and limit any confusion.

The Exchange believes that the proposal is also equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed change to prorate port fees for the first month of service and continue to charge for the remainder of the month upon cancellation will apply uniformly to all similarly situated participants. Removing the requirement to pay a full month's port fee if a user joins any day other than the first of the month is user-friendly and provides users incentive to subscribe at their convenience. The Exchange believes that prorating the fees for the first month of a user's subscription will ensure that the fees are more equitable to a user's utilization of the products. All users will benefit from the proration of the first month of their subscription.

The Exchange also believes that it is just and equitable, and in the interests of market participants, for the Exchange to (i) clarify the Exchange's existing practice to provide NTF ports at no cost in Options 7, Section 6C(iv), codifying existing practice where it is not expressly stated in the Rule, and (ii) clarify the Exchange's existing practice not to charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii). The Exchange believes that market participants will benefit from increased clarity, which will help limit any potential confusion in the future.

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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Supra note 4.

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Intramarket Competition

The Exchange does not believe that its proposal will place any category of Exchange participants at a competitive disadvantage. The proposed change to prorate port fees for the first month of service will apply uniformly to all similarly situated participants. All users will receive the benefit of a proration for the first month of port connectivity, which will enable users to save money that they otherwise would incur under the Exchange's current rules that do not provide for proration. The proposed language describing the Exchange's practice to bill for the remainder of the month upon cancellation, as well as the proposed changes to Options 7, Section 6C(iv) to clarify that the Exchange does not charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii) and to clarify that NTF ports are provided at no cost, merely codify and clarify existing practices of the Exchange.

Intermarket Competition

The Exchange believes that the proposed change to its port fee schedule to provide proration for the first month of port connectivity will not impose a burden on competition because the Exchange's execution services are completely voluntary and subject to extensive competition both from the other live exchanges and from off-exchange venues, which include alternative trading systems that trade national market system stock. Moreover, as noted above, other exchanges currently charge new ports on a prorated basis for the first month of service. The proposed changes will help ensure that the Exchange's billing practices are commensurate with competitors.

Supra note 4.

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The proposed change to the Exchange's port fee schedule is reflective of this competition because, as a threshold issue, the Exchange is a relatively small market so its ability to burden intermarket competition is limited. In this regard, even the largest U.S. equities exchange by volume only has 17-18% market share, which in most markets could hardly be categorized as having enough market power to burden competition. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will impair the ability of members, participants, or competing order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

The proposed changes to clarify that the Exchange does not charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii) and to clarify that NTF ports are provided at no cost are designed to expressly state existing practices without changing their operation and, therefore, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes will not impose a burden on competition.

- 5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>
 - No written comments were either solicited or received.
- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
 Not applicable.
- 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,¹⁰ the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the selfregulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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 Self-Regulatory Organization</u> or of the Commission

The proposal is similar to SR-NASDAQ-2022-049 with respect to port fee proration. This proposal includes additional proposed language to make clarifying changes to Options 7, Section 6C(iv).

- Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act
 Not applicable.
- 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

11. Exhibits

Not applicable.

- 1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.
- 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

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EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-GEMX-2022-08)

September , 2022

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend its Port-related Fees at Options 7, Section 6

Pursuant to 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 September 1, 2022, Nasdaq GEMX, LLC ("GEMX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the</u> Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend the Exchange's port-related fees at Options 7, Section 6, as described further below. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/gemx/rules, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> 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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend Options 7, Section 6 to (i) prorate port fees for the first month of service, (ii) clarify that port fees for cancelled services will continue to be charged for the remainder of month, (iii) clarify that Disaster Recovery Port Fees are not charged for market data ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii), and (iv) clarify that Nasdaq Testing Facility ("NTF") ports are provided at no cost.

Currently, the Exchange does not prorate port connectivity fees. Thus, participants are assessed a full month's fee if they direct the Exchange to make the subscribed connectivity live on any day of the month, including the last day thereof. Participants are also assessed a full month's port fee if they cancel service during the month.

The Exchange proposes to provide prorated port fees for the first month of service for new requests. By prorating the first month's fees, the Exchange would charge participants port fees only for the days in which the participants are connected to the Exchange during the first month of service. The Exchange proposes to continue the current practice of charging port fees for the remainder of the month upon cancellation. If a participant starts and cancels service in the same month, the participant would not be

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billed for those days prior to the service start date but would be billed for the remainder of the month, including after the service is cancelled.³

The Exchange believes it is important for participants to have the option to establish new connections to the Exchange at any time during the month without being hampered by a full month charge irrespective of when during the month service begins. Moreover, other exchanges also charge new ports on a prorated basis for the first month of service.⁴

The Exchange also proposes to make clarifying changes to Options 7, Section 6C(iv). First, the Exchange proposes to clarify that Disaster Recovery Port Fees are not charged for the ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii). The market data ports in Options 7, Section 6C(iii) are provided at no cost and the Exchange does not charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for these ports. Second, the Exchange proposes to clarify the Exchange's existing practice that NTF Ports are provided at no cost. The NTF provides subscribers with a virtual System test environment that closely approximates the production environment on which they may test their automated systems that integrate with the Exchange. For example, the NTF provides subscribers a virtual System environment for testing upcoming releases and product enhancements, as well as testing firm software prior to implementation. The Exchange proposes adding express language in the Rules to provide increased clarity to market participants.

For example, if a participant orders a port on September 4, 2022 and cancels the port on September 16, 2022, the participant would be charged the prorated port fee for September 5, 2022 through September 30, 2022.

See, e.g., Cboe BZX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule, available at https://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/membership/fee_schedule/bzx/; New York Stock Exchange Price List 2022, available at https://www.nyse.com/publicdocs/nyse/markets/nyse/NYSE_Price_List.pdf.

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2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,⁵ in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁶ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange's proposed changes to its port fee schedule are reasonable in several respects. As a threshold matter, the Exchange is subject to significant competitive forces in the market for options and equity securities transaction services that constrain its pricing determinations in that market. The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, while adopting a series of steps to improve the current market model, 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."

The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to prorate port fees for the first month of connectivity. As discussed above, the Exchange believes it is important for participants to have the flexibility to establish new connections to the Exchange at any

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

^{6 15} U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

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time during the month without being hampered by a full month charge. For example, the Exchange believes it is reasonable to charge a user who begins a subscription on the last day of the month to be charged only for use of a port for that day. As noted above, other exchanges already charge their customers for new ports on a prorated basis for the first month of service. The proposed language describing the Exchange's practice to bill for the remainder of the month upon cancellation is intended only to clarify the existing practice and limit any confusion.

The Exchange believes that the proposal is also equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the proposed change to prorate port fees for the first month of service and continue to charge for the remainder of the month upon cancellation will apply uniformly to all similarly situated participants. Removing the requirement to pay a full month's port fee if a user joins any day other than the first of the month is user-friendly and provides users incentive to subscribe at their convenience. The Exchange believes that prorating the fees for the first month of a user's subscription will ensure that the fees are more equitable to a user's utilization of the products. All users will benefit from the proration of the first month of their subscription.

The Exchange also believes that it is just and equitable, and in the interests of market participants, for the Exchange to (i) clarify the Exchange's existing practice to provide NTF ports at no cost in Options 7, Section 6C(iv), codifying existing practice where it is not expressly stated in the Rule, and (ii) clarify the Exchange's existing practice not to charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for ports listed in Options 7, Section

Supra note 4.

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6C(iii). The Exchange believes that market participants will benefit from increased clarity, which will help limit any potential confusion in the future.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Intramarket Competition

The Exchange does not believe that its proposal will place any category of Exchange participants at a competitive disadvantage. The proposed change to prorate port fees for the first month of service will apply uniformly to all similarly situated participants. All users will receive the benefit of a proration for the first month of port connectivity, which will enable users to save money that they otherwise would incur under the Exchange's current rules that do not provide for proration. The proposed language describing the Exchange's practice to bill for the remainder of the month upon cancellation, as well as the proposed changes to Options 7, Section 6C(iv) to clarify that the Exchange does not charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii) and to clarify that NTF ports are provided at no cost, merely codify and clarify existing practices of the Exchange.

Intermarket Competition

The Exchange believes that the proposed change to its port fee schedule to provide proration for the first month of port connectivity will not impose a burden on competition because the Exchange's execution services are completely voluntary and subject to extensive competition both from the other live exchanges and from off-exchange venues, which include alternative trading systems that trade national market

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system stock. Moreover, as noted above, other exchanges currently charge new ports on a prorated basis for the first month of service. The proposed changes will help ensure that the Exchange's billing practices are commensurate with competitors.

The proposed change to the Exchange's port fee schedule is reflective of this competition because, as a threshold issue, the Exchange is a relatively small market so its ability to burden intermarket competition is limited. In this regard, even the largest U.S. equities exchange by volume only has 17-18% market share, which in most markets could hardly be categorized as having enough market power to burden competition.

Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will impair the ability of members, participants, or competing order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

The proposed changes to clarify that the Exchange does not charge a Disaster Recovery Port Fee for ports listed in Options 7, Section 6C(iii) and to clarify that NTF ports are provided at no cost are designed to expressly state existing practices without changing their operation and, therefore, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes will not impose a burden on competition.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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.¹⁰ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule

Supra note 4.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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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:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form
 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-GEMX-2022-08 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-GEMX-2022-08. 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 Commission's Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written

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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; 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-GEMX-2022-08 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹¹

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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EXHIBIT 5

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

Nasdaq GEMX Rules

* * * * *

Options Rules

* * * * *

Options 7: Pricing Schedule

* * * * *

Section 6. Connectivity Fees

A. - B. No change.

C. Ports and Other Services

The below charges are assessed by GEMX for connectivity to GEMX.

A port is a logical connection or session that enables a market participant to send inbound messages and/or receive outbound messages from the Exchange using various communication protocols. Fees are [assessed in full month increments and are not prorated.] prorated for the first month of service under this section. Upon cancellation, market participants are required to pay for service for the remainder of the month, regardless of whether it is the first month of service.

(i) The following order and quote protocols are available on GEMX.

(1) FIX Port Fee² \$650 per port, per month, per account number

(2) SQF Port Fee¹ \$1,250 per port per month (3) SQF Purge Port Fee¹ \$1,250 per port per month

(4) OTTO Port Fee² \$650 per port, per month, per account number

(ii) The following order and execution information is available to Members.

(1) CTI Port Fee² \$650 per port, per month, per account number

(2) FIX DROP Port Fee² \$650 per port, per month, per account number

(3) TradeInfo GEMX \$0 per user, per month

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Interface

(iii) The following data ports fees apply in connection with data subscriptions pursuant to GEMX Rules at Section 7. These ports are available to non-GEMX Members and GEMX Members.

(1) Nasdaq GEMX

\$0 per port, per month

Depth of Market Data

Port

(2) Nasdaq GEMX

\$0 per port, per month

Order Feed Port

(3) Nasdaq GEMX Top

\$0 per port, per month

Quote Feed Port

(4) Nasdaq GEMX

\$0 per port, per month

Trades Feed Port

(iv) Other ports:

Disaster Recovery Port \$50 per port, per month, per account number

Fee² for ports in

subsections (i) - (ii[i])

Nasdaq Testing Facility \$0 per port, per month

Port Fee³

¹The SQF Port and the SQF Purge Port are subject to a monthly cap of \$17,500, which cap is applicable to Market Makers.

²OTTO Port, CTI Port, FIX Port, FIX Drop Port and Disaster Recovery Port are subject to a monthly cap of \$7,500.

³The Nasdaq Testing Facility Port Fee is applicable to all ports within this Section 6C.

D. – H. No change.

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