Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response...........38

| Page 1 of ' | 17 | WASHING | EXCHANGE COMMI GTON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4 | | File No.* 9 | SR - 2015 - * 42 mendments *) | |
|--|--|--|---|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Filing by International Securities Exchange | | | | | | | |
| Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 | | | | | | | |
| Initial * | Amendment * | Withdrawal | Section 19(b)(2) * | Section . | on 19(b)(3)(A) * | Section 19(b)(3)(B) * | |
| 1 1101 | Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * | Date Expires * | | 19b-4(f) 19b-4(f) 19b-4(f) |)(2) 19b-4(f)(5) | | |
| | proposed change pursuant | to the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2) * | ing, and Settlement Ac | t of 2010 | Security-Based Swap to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2) | _ | |
| Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document | | | | | | | |
| Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposal to permit any CMM that is appointed to act as an Alternative PMM to voluntarily act as a Back-Up PMM, and amend the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen to replace a PMM that fails to have a quote in the System, when more than one CMM is quoting in the series. | | | | | | | |
| 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 Nar | me * Michael | | Last Name * Sanoc | ki | | | |
| Title * | | | | | | | |
| E-mail * | msanocki@ise.com | 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 11/16/2015 Secretary & General Counsel | | | | | | | |
| | lichael Simon | | Societary & Schelal Counsel | | | | |
| ъy IV | (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, | | | | | | | |

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * 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 Add Remove View 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) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * 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, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire 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 Remove Add View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View 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** 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 Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy Partial Amendment 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.

Page 3 of 17

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) The International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or "ISE") proposes to permit any Competitive Market Maker ("CMM") that is appointed to act as an Alternative Primary Market Maker ("Alternative PMM") to voluntarily act as a Back-Up Primary Market Maker ("Back-Up PMM"), and amend the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen to replace a PMM that fails to have a quote in the System, when more than one CMM is quoting in the series. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

- (b) Inapplicable.
- (c) Inapplicable.

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

The Board of Directors of the Exchange approved this proposed rule change on June 1, 2015. 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 of, and the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) <u>Purpose</u> – The Exchange proposes to permit any CMM that is approved to act as an Alternative PMM to voluntarily act as a Back-Up PMM in options series in which it is quoting when the appointed PMM fails to have a quote in the System. In doing so, the Exchange would further enhance its markets by having additional Back-Up PMMs to take over a PMM's responsibilities when the appointed PMM faces operational difficulties or ceases operations. The Exchange also proposes to amend the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen to replace a PMM that fails to have a quote in the System, when more than one CMM is quoting in the series.

Background

Currently, CMMs that are also PMMs on the Exchange may voluntarily act as Back-Up PMMs when the appointed PMM has technical difficulties that interrupt its participation in the market. ¹ These CMMs/PMMs are permitted to be Back-Up PMMs because they already have systems built to undertake the responsibilities of a PMM on the Exchange. ² Back-Up PMMs reduce volatility that occurs during, and the duration of, non-firm or "fast market" states disseminated by the ISE and facilitate uninterrupted trading even when a PMM experiences difficulties that cause it to remove its quotes from the market. In these situations, the Back-Up PMM assumes most of the responsibilities

¹ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-53419 (March 6, 2006), 71 FR 12758 (March 13, 2006) (SR-ISE-2005-50).

² If there is more than one eligible member quoting in the series, the System will automatically switch to the member with the largest offer in the series.

and privileges of a PMM under the Rules with respect to any series in which the appointed PMM fails to have a quote in the System.³ The system automatically switches back to the appointed PMM when it re-establishes its quotes in the series, but the Back-Up PMM continues to be responsible for any outstanding unexecuted orders it is handling.

The Exchange's Rules also allow the Exchange to appoint a CMM as an Alternative PMM when a PMM does not wish to trade in an option class.⁴ These CMMs are permitted to be Alternative PMMs because they have appropriate systems and procedures in place to undertake the responsibilities of a PMM. Alternative PMMs enable the Exchange to list and retain options classes that PMMs do not wish to trade.⁵ Specifically, when no PMMs want the allocation of an option class, the Alternative PMMs are offered the opportunity to serve as PMM in the option class in accordance with the Exchange's regular allocation procedures. In these situations, the Alternative PMM has all of the responsibilities and privileges of a PMM with respect to all appointed options classes.⁶ Additionally, if an Alternative PMM ceases trading in an option class, that option class would be reallocated by the Exchange.

Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange now proposes to permit an Alternative PMM to voluntarily act as a Back-Up PMM in options series in which it is quoting⁷ and assume most of the responsibilities and privileges of a PMM under the Rules with respect to any option series

³ A CMM does not become subject to the requirement in Rule 804(e)(1) to enter continuous quotations in all of the series of all of the options classes to which it is appointed, as opposed to only 60% of the options classes under Rule 804(e)(2), by acting as a Back-Up PMM.

⁴ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-59250 (January 14, 2009), 74 FR 4062 (January 22, 2009) (SR-ISE-2008-90).

⁵ Under Rule 802, allocations are voluntary, and at times ISE was unable to list new products because none of the PMMs were interested in trading the class. As a result, the Exchange was unable to list new products because existing PMMs were not interested in trading the option class. At other times, ISE delisted certain products due to lack of PMM interest. ISE represents that this occurs most frequently with respect to options on stocks that have pending corporate actions and options products that are not listed at any other options exchange. ISE believes that despite the lack of PMM interest, these products may be of interest to other Members of the Exchange.

⁶ For example, Alternative PMMs would enjoy privileges that include, among other things, participation rights and small order execution preference while accepting responsibilities that include, among other things, the obligation to provide continuous quotations in the option class to which the Alternative PMM is appointed, and the obligation to conduct the opening rotation on a daily basis for as long as the Alternative PMM is appointed to that option class.

⁷ The Exchange notes that under its current rules it may only appoint PMMs (i.e. CMMs that are also PMMs in other option classes) as Back-up PMMs.

in which the appointed PMM fails to have a quote in the System. This may occur when, for example, the appointed PMM has technical difficulties that interrupt its participation in the market or a PMM exits the options market making business. Under the proposal, an Alternative PMM is eligible to act as a Back-Up PMM because it already has in place written procedures and systems built to assume the responsibilities of a PMM on the Exchange. The Exchange also proposes to further amend the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen to replace a PMM that fails to have a quote in the System, when more than one Back-Up PMM is quoting in the series.

In situations where a PMM fails to have a quote in the System, the System will choose a Back-Up PMM, from the available CMMs, to replace the PMM. The System will choose the CMM with the lowest offer price in the series at that time. If there are two or more CMMs at the same offer price, the CMM with the highest bid price will be chosen. If there are two or more CMMs at the same bid and offer price, the CMM with the largest offer quantity will be chosen. If there are two or more CMMs with the same offer quantity, the CMM with the largest bid quantity will be chosen. If there remains two or more CMMs with the same bid and offer quantity and prices, the one with the highest time priority on the offer will be chosen as the Back-Up PMM. Additionally, when possible, the System will automatically switch back to the appointed PMM when it re-establishes its quotes in the series, but the Back-Up PMM will continue to be responsible for any outstanding unexecuted orders it is handling.

The proposed rule change enhances ISE's market because it ensures ISE has an adequate number of willing Members to act as Back-Up PMMs for PMMs that are not participating in the market. Ultimately, having more Back-Up PMMs will further: (1) reduce the volatility that occurs during, and the duration of, non-firm or "fast market¹⁰" states disseminated by ISE and (2) allow for virtually seamless trading even when multiple PMMs experience difficulties that cause PMMs to remove their quotes from the market

(b) <u>Basis</u> – The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act¹¹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) ¹² in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to

⁸ See Supplementary Material .03(a) to ISE Rule 803.

⁹ See Supplementary Material .03(b) to ISE Rule 803.

¹⁰ Fast markets occur when there is rapid trading in a security that causes a delay in the electronic updating of its last sale. Trades can occur so rapidly that market orders may be executed at a very different price from the price at the time the order was placed. This leads to investors being disadvantaged because 1) quotes can be inaccurate when PMMs are unable to keep up with the pace of trading or 2) a broker may not be able to fill orders when investors want or expect them to because the PMM is not quoting the other side of the market resulting in the purchase or sale of an investor's securities at undesirable price levels.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b).

¹² 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b)(5).

promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market by enhancing the Exchange's market by reducing volatility that occurs during and the duration of non-firm or "fast market" states disseminated by the ISE and allowing for virtually uninterrupted trading even when multiple PMMs experience difficulties that cause PMMs to remove their quotes from the market. Uninterrupted trading is possible because 1) Back-Up PMMs have appropriate systems and procedures in place to undertake the responsibilities of a PMM when necessary and 2) having an adequate amount of Back-Up PMMs means a Back-Up PMM will be available to take over for a PMM, and post firm and accurate quotes when a situation causes a PMM to fail to have a quote in the System. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it enhances the Exchange's ability to disseminate firm markets. Additionally, by amending and explaining the detailed steps for choosing Back-Up PMMs, members will have additional clarity on the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen in certain situations.

4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

This proposed rule change does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act because ISE is enhancing its market by allowing additional Members, which have systems built to assume the responsibilities of a PMM on the Exchange to be Backup-PMMs when appointed PMMs face operational difficulties or cease market making operations.

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

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

N/A

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)</u> or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

The Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹³ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. ¹⁴ The Exchange

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

asserts that the proposed rule change: (1) will not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (2) will not impose any significant burden on competition; and (3) and will not become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate. In addition, 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, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. Accordingly, the Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁵ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁶

The Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁷ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder¹⁸ because it does not raise any new, unique or substantive issues, but instead merely permits CMMs that are Alternative PMMs to voluntarily act as Back-Up PMMs when appointed PMMs face operational difficulties or cease market making operations. 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.

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

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

9. Exhibits

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

Exhibit 5 – Text of the Proposed Rule Change.

¹⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-; File No. SR-ISE-2015-42)

[Date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; International Securities Exchange, LLC; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Relating Alternative Primary Market Makers

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 November 16, 2015, the International Securities Exchange, LLC (the "Exchange" or the "ISE") 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>
Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to permit any Competitive Market Maker ("CMM") that is appointed to act as an Alternative Primary Market Maker ("Alternative PMM") to voluntarily act as a Back-Up Primary Market Maker ("Back-Up PMM"). The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (http://www.ise.com), at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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 self-regulatory 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

(a) <u>Purpose</u> – The Exchange proposes to permit any CMM that is approved to act as an Alternative PMM to voluntarily act as a Back-Up PMM in options series in which it is quoting when the appointed PMM fails to have a quote in the System. In doing so, the Exchange would further enhance its markets by having additional Back-Up PMMs to take over a PMM's responsibilities when the appointed PMM faces operational difficulties or ceases operations. The Exchange also proposes to amend the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen to replace a PMM that fails to have a quote in the System, when more than one CMM is quoting in the series.

Background

Currently, CMMs that are also PMMs on the Exchange may voluntarily act as Back-Up PMMs when the appointed PMM has technical difficulties that interrupt its participation in the market. ³ These CMMs/PMMs are permitted to be Back-Up PMMs because they already have systems built to undertake the responsibilities of a PMM on

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-53419 (March 6, 2006), 71 FR 12758 (March 13, 2006) (SR-ISE-2005-50).

the Exchange.⁴ Back-Up PMMs reduce volatility that occurs during, and the duration of, non-firm or "fast market" states disseminated by the ISE and facilitate uninterrupted trading even when a PMM experiences difficulties that cause it to remove its quotes from the market. In these situations, the Back-Up PMM assumes most of the responsibilities and privileges of a PMM under the Rules with respect to any series in which the appointed PMM fails to have a quote in the System.⁵ The system automatically switches back to the appointed PMM when it re-establishes its quotes in the series, but the Back-Up PMM continues to be responsible for any outstanding unexecuted orders it is handling.

The Exchange's Rules also allow the Exchange to appoint a CMM as an Alternative PMM when a PMM does not wish to trade in an option class.⁶ These CMMs are permitted to be Alternative PMMs because they have appropriate systems and procedures in place to undertake the responsibilities of a PMM. Alternative PMMs enable the Exchange to list and retain options classes that PMMs do not wish to trade.⁷ Specifically, when no PMMs want the allocation of an option class, the Alternative

⁴ If there is more than one eligible member quoting in the series, the System will automatically switch to the member with the largest offer in the series.

⁵ A CMM does not become subject to the requirement in Rule 804(e)(1) to enter continuous quotations in all of the series of all of the options classes to which it is appointed, as opposed to only 60% of the options classes under Rule 804(e)(2), by acting as a Back-Up PMM.

⁶ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-59250 (January 14, 2009), 74 FR 4062 (January 22, 2009) (SR-ISE-2008-90).

⁷ Under Rule 802, allocations are voluntary, and at times ISE was unable to list new products because none of the PMMs were interested in trading the class. As a result, the Exchange was unable to list new products because existing PMMs were not interested in trading the option class. At other times, ISE delisted certain products due to lack of PMM interest. ISE represents that this occurs most frequently with respect to options on stocks that have pending corporate actions and options products that are not listed at any other options exchange. ISE believes that despite the lack of PMM interest, these products may be of interest to other Members of the Exchange.

PMMs are offered the opportunity to serve as PMM in the option class in accordance with the Exchange's regular allocation procedures. In these situations, the Alternative PMM has all of the responsibilities and privileges of a PMM with respect to all appointed options classes. Additionally, if an Alternative PMM ceases trading in an option class, that option class would be reallocated by the Exchange.

Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange now proposes to permit an Alternative PMM to voluntarily act as a Back-Up PMM in options series in which it is quoting⁹ and assume most of the responsibilities and privileges of a PMM under the Rules with respect to any option series in which the appointed PMM fails to have a quote in the System.¹⁰ This may occur when, for example, the appointed PMM has technical difficulties that interrupt its participation in the market or a PMM exits the options market making business. Under the proposal, an Alternative PMM is eligible to act as a Back-Up PMM because it already has in place written procedures and systems built to assume the responsibilities of a PMM on the Exchange. The Exchange also proposes to further amend the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen to replace a PMM that fails to have a quote in the System, when more than one Back-Up PMM is quoting in the series.

In situations where a PMM fails to have a quote in the System, the System will choose a Back-Up PMM, from the available CMMs, to replace the PMM. The System

⁸ For example, Alternative PMMs would enjoy privileges that include, among other things, participation rights and small order execution preference while accepting responsibilities that include, among other things, the obligation to provide continuous quotations in the option class to which the Alternative PMM is appointed, and the obligation to conduct the opening rotation on a daily basis for as long as the Alternative PMM is appointed to that option class.

⁹ The Exchange notes that under its current rules it may only appoint PMMs (i.e. CMMs that are also PMMs in other option classes) as Back-up PMMs.

will choose the CMM with the lowest offer price in the series at that time. If there are two or more CMMs at the same offer price, the CMM with the highest bid price will be chosen. If there are two or more CMMs at the same bid and offer price, the CMM with the largest offer quantity will be chosen. If there are two or more CMMs with the same offer quantity, the CMM with the largest bid quantity will be chosen. If there remains two or more CMMs with the same bid and offer quantity and prices, the one with the highest time priority on the offer will be chosen as the Back-Up PMM.¹¹ Additionally, when possible, the System will automatically switch back to the appointed PMM when it re-establishes its quotes in the series, but the Back-Up PMM will continue to be responsible for any outstanding unexecuted orders it is handling.

The proposed rule change enhances ISE's market because it ensures ISE has an adequate number of willing Members to act as Back-Up PMMs for PMMs that are not participating in the market. Ultimately, having more Back-Up PMMs will further: (1) reduce the volatility that occurs during, and the duration of, non-firm or "fast market¹²" states disseminated by ISE and (2) allow for virtually seamless trading even when multiple PMMs experience difficulties that cause PMMs to remove their quotes from the market.

¹⁰ <u>See</u> Supplementary Material .03(a) to ISE Rule 803.

¹¹ <u>See</u> Supplementary Material .03(b) to ISE Rule 803.

¹² Fast markets occur when there is rapid trading in a security that causes a delay in the electronic updating of its last sale. Trades can occur so rapidly that market orders may be executed at a very different price from the price at the time the order was placed. This leads to investors being disadvantaged because 1) quotes can be inaccurate when PMMs are unable to keep up with the pace of trading or 2) a broker may not be able to fill orders when investors want or expect them to because the PMM is not quoting the other side of the market resulting in the purchase or sale of an investor's securities at undesirable price levels.

(b) <u>Basis</u> – The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act¹³ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)¹⁴ in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market by enhancing the Exchange's market by reducing volatility that occurs during and the duration of non-firm or "fast market" states disseminated by the ISE and allowing for virtually uninterrupted trading even when multiple PMMs experience difficulties that cause PMMs to remove their quotes from the market. Uninterrupted trading is possible because 1) Back-Up PMMs have appropriate systems and procedures in place to undertake the responsibilities of a PMM when necessary and 2) having an adequate amount of Back-Up PMMs means a Back-Up PMM will be available to take over for a PMM, and post firm and accurate quotes when a situation causes a PMM to fail to have a quote in the System. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it enhances the Exchange's ability to disseminate firm markets. Additionally, by amending and explaining the detailed steps for choosing Back-Up PMMs, members will have additional clarity on the process by which a Back-Up PMM is chosen in certain situations.

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

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¹³ 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b).

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b)(5).

This proposed rule change does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act because ISE is enhancing its market by allowing additional Members, which have systems built to assume the responsibilities of a PMM on the Exchange to be Backup-PMMs when appointed PMMs face operational difficulties or cease market making operations.

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

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> <u>Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, does not impose any significant burden on competition, and, by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁵ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. 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, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission, as required by Rule 19b-4(f)(6).

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¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings 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 rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-ISE-2015-42 on the subject line.

<u>Paper comments</u>:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-ISE-2015-42. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the ISE. 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-2015-42 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.¹⁷

Secretary

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¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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

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Rule 803. Obligations of Market Makers

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Supplementary Material to Rule 803

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.03 Any Member that is approved to act in the capacity of a Primary Market Maker or an "Alternative Primary Market Maker" may voluntarily act as a "Back-Up Primary Market Maker" in options series in which it is quoting as a Competitive Market Maker.

(a) No change

(b) [If more than one Competitive Market Maker that has volunteered to be a Back-Up Primary Market Maker is quoting in an options series at the time that a Primary Market Maker ceases quoting, the Competitive Market Maker with the largest offer at the lowest price in the series at that time will be chosen to be the Back-Up Primary Market Maker. In the event of a tie based on price and size, the Competitive Market Maker with time priority will be automatically chosen.] In the event a Primary Market Maker ceases quoting, the System will choose a Back-Up Primary Market Maker, from the available Competitive Market Makers, to replace the Primary Market Maker. If more than one Competitive Market Maker has volunteered to be a Back-Up Primary Market Maker and is quoting in the options series at the time that a Primary Market Maker ceases quoting, the System will choose the Competitive Market Maker with the lowest offer price in the series at that time. If there are two or more Competitive Market Makers at the same offer price, the Competitive Market Maker with the highest bid price will be chosen. If there are two or more Competitive Market Makers at the same bid and offer price, the Competitive Market Maker with the largest offer quantity will be chosen. If there are two or more Competitive Market Makers with the same offer quantity, the Competitive Market Maker with the largest bid quantity will be chosen. If there remains two or more Competitive Market Makers with the same bid and offer quantity and prices, the one with the highest time priority on the offer will be chosen as the Back-Up Primary Market Maker.

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