Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

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

Page 1 of * 18	WASHING	EXCHANGE COMMIS GTON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4		File No.* S dment No. (req. for Ar	R - 2015 - * 084 nendments *)
Filing by NASDAQ Stock	Market				
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934					
Initial * Amendmen  ☑ □	t * Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Sectio	n 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot Extension of Time for Commission A	Date Expires *		19b-4(f) 19b-4(f) 19b-4(f)	(2) 19b-4(f)(5)	
Notice of proposed change proposed Section 806(e)(1) *	Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlement Act		Security-Based Swap to the Securities Excha Section 3C(b)(2)	inge Act of 1934
Exhibit 2 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 *).  Proposed changes to amend NASDAQ Rule 7014(g) concerning rebates available under the NBBO Program.  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 * Sean		Last Name * Bennett			
	Associate General Counsel				
E-mail * sean.bennett@nasdaq.com					
Telephone * (301) 978-849	99 Fax (301) 978-8472	2			
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 07/16/2015 Executive Vice President and General Counsel					
Date 07/16/2015		Executive vice Preside	and Ger	neral Counsel	
By Edward S. Knight	- +1				
(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.					

#### 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 Add Remove 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.

## 1. Text of Proposed Rule Change

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange

Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

("NASDAQ" or "Exchange") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission

("Commission") proposed changes to amend NASDAQ Rule 7014(g) concerning rebates available under the NBBO Program.

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

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

### 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of NASDAQ pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of NASDAQ on July 1, 2015. NASDAQ staff will advise the Board of Directors of NASDAQ of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action by NASDAQ is necessary for the filing of the rule change. The Exchange will implement the new rebate on July 17, 2015.

Questions regarding this rule filing may be directed to T. Sean Bennett, Associate General Counsel, The NASDAQ OMX Group at (301) 978-8499 (telephone).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

#### a. <u>Purpose</u>

NASDAQ is proposing to add a new \$0.0004 per share executed credit in securities listed on NYSE, which would be available to any member that provides shares of liquidity in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs ("MPIDs") that represent 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume<sup>3</sup> during the month. The NBBO Program provides a per share executed rebate<sup>4</sup> with respect to all other displayed orders (other than Designated Retail Orders, as defined in NASDAQ Rule 7018) in securities priced at \$1 or more per share that provide liquidity and establish the NBBO. Currently, NASDAQ offers a \$0.0002 per share executed credit to a member that either: (1) executes shares of liquidity provided in all securities through one or more of its MPIDs that represents 0.475% or more of Consolidated Volume during the month; or (2) add NOM Market Maker liquidity, as defined in Chapter XV, Section 2 of the Nasdaq Options Market rules, in Penny Pilot Options and/or Non-Penny Pilot Options above 0.90% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in

Consolidated Volume is the total consolidated volume reported to all consolidated transaction reporting plans by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities during a month in equity securities, excluding executed orders with a size of less than one round lot. For purposes of calculating Consolidated Volume and the extent of a member's trading activity, expressed as a percentage of or ratio to Consolidated Volume, the date of the annual reconstitution of the Russell Investments Indexes shall be excluded from both total Consolidated Volume and the member's trading activity. See Rule 7018. For purposes of the proposed tier, the Exchange will calculate Consolidated Volume during the first month that it is implemented based on only the day during that month that the rebate is available.

The rebate is provided in addition to any rebate or credit payable under NASDAQ Rule 7018(a) and the Investor Support Program ("ISP") and Qualified Market Maker ("QMM") Program under NASDAQ Rule 7014.

a month. Thus, the NBBO program provides an incentive to members to improve the quality of the market by rewarding members that provide significant market-improving order flow with a credit.

The proposed new rebate, which is provided in lieu of the current rebate, is designed to further improve the market by providing members with a higher credit as incentive to provide a greater level of Consolidated Volume to NASDAQ and to quote aggressively in Tape A securities. In this regard, the proposed new credit will apply to all other displayed orders (other than Designated Retail Orders, as defined in NASDAQ Rule 7018) in securities listed on NYSE ("Tape A") priced at \$1 or more per share that provide liquidity and establish the NBBO.

### b. Statutory Basis

NASDAQ believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,<sup>5</sup> in general, and with Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> 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 or system which the Exchange operates or controls, and is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest; and is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed change to amend Rule 7014(g) is reasonable because it provides an opportunity for members that qualify to receive a rebate of \$0.0004 per share executed for all other displayed orders (other than Designated Retail Orders, as defined in Rule 7018) in Tape A securities priced at \$1 or more per share that provide liquidity and establish the NBBO. Thus the rebate provides incentive to members to provide aggressively priced orders in Tape A securities that improve the market by setting the NBBO. Requiring a higher level of Consolidated Volume than the lower \$0.0002 per share executed tier is consistent with incentivizing member to provide greater market improving activity in the form of Consolidated Volume in return for eligibility for a higher credit. The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to limit the higher credit to Tape A securities because it desires to improve the market on NASDAQ in Tape A securities in terms of setting the NBBO, which is currently not as robust as price setting in non-Tape A securities.

NASDAQ believes the proposed change is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the \$0.0004 per share executed rebate under the NBBO Program is available to all members on an equal basis and provides a rebate for activity that improves the Exchange's market quality through increased activity and by encouraging the setting of the NBBO. In this regard, the NBBO Program encourages higher levels of liquidity provision into the price discovery process and is consistent with the overall

This is similar to other programs originating from the BATS Global Markets 2011 filing. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73967 (January 3, 2011), 80 FR 594 (January 7, 2011) (SR-BATS-2010-038).

goals of enhancing market quality. Also, the Exchange believes that the qualification requirement for the new tier is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it represents an increased yet attainable level for members to achieve and to qualify for this higher rebate. In addition, the Exchange notes that the new eligibility standard for the tier, which requires a member to execute shares of liquidity provided in all securities through one or more of its MPIDs that represents 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume during the month, represents a lower Consolidated Volume requirement than the QMM Program, which requires at least 0.70% of Consolidated Volume to qualify under the lowest credit tier. The Exchange believes the proposed qualification standard is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the NBBO Program rebates do not apply to all shares of liquidity provided, and thus the Consolidated Volume threshold is set lower.

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

NASDAQ does not believe that the proposed rule changes will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. NASDAQ notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, NASDAQ must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and with alternative trading systems that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges.

<sup>8 &</sup>lt;u>See</u> Rule 7014(e).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, NASDAQ believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. In this instance, NASDAQ is proposing to enhance the NBBO Program with an additional and higher rebate opportunity in Tape A securities in return for market improving participation. Consequently, the proposed changes do not impose a burden on competition because the proposed rebate, and incentive programs generally, are reflective of the need for exchanges to offer financial incentives to attract order flow and to let such financial incentives evolve in response to competition. Accordingly, while the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will result in any burden on competition, if the change proposed herein are unattractive to market participants it is likely that NASDAQ will lose market share as a result.

- Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others
   Written comments were neither solicited nor received.
- 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, <sup>10</sup> NASDAQ has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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

Not applicable.

- 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

Not applicable.

## 11. Exhibits

1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal</u>

## Register.

5. Text of the proposed rule change.

**EXHIBIT 1** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2015-084)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Modify NASDAQ Rule 7014(g) Concerning Rebates Available Under the NBBO Program

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup>, and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on July 16, 2015, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("NASDAQ" 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 Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend NASDAQ Rule 7014(g) concerning rebates available under the NBBO Program. The Exchange will implement the new rebate on July 17, 2015.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <a href="http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com">http://nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com</a>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

# 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 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 Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

#### 1. <u>Purpose</u>

NASDAQ is proposing to add a new \$0.0004 per share executed credit in securities listed on NYSE, which would be available to any member that provides shares of liquidity in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs ("MPIDs") that represent 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume<sup>3</sup> during the month. The NBBO Program provides a per share executed rebate<sup>4</sup> with respect to all other displayed orders (other than Designated Retail Orders, as defined in NASDAQ Rule 7018) in securities priced at \$1 or more per share that provide liquidity and establish the

Consolidated Volume is the total consolidated volume reported to all consolidated transaction reporting plans by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities during a month in equity securities, excluding executed orders with a size of less than one round lot. For purposes of calculating Consolidated Volume and the extent of a member's trading activity, expressed as a percentage of or ratio to Consolidated Volume, the date of the annual reconstitution of the Russell Investments Indexes shall be excluded from both total Consolidated Volume and the member's trading activity. See Rule 7018. For purposes of the proposed tier, the Exchange will calculate Consolidated Volume during the first month that it is implemented based on only the day during that month that the rebate is available.

The rebate is provided in addition to any rebate or credit payable under NASDAQ Rule 7018(a) and the Investor Support Program ("ISP") and Qualified Market Maker ("QMM") Program under NASDAQ Rule 7014.

NBBO. Currently, NASDAQ offers a \$0.0002 per share executed credit to a member that either: (1) executes shares of liquidity provided in all securities through one or more of its MPIDs that represents 0.475% or more of Consolidated Volume during the month; or (2) add NOM Market Maker liquidity, as defined in Chapter XV, Section 2 of the Nasdaq Options Market rules, in Penny Pilot Options and/or Non-Penny Pilot Options above 0.90% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month. Thus, the NBBO program provides an incentive to members to improve the quality of the market by rewarding members that provide significant market-improving order flow with a credit.

The proposed new rebate, which is provided in lieu of the current rebate, is designed to further improve the market by providing members with a higher credit as incentive to provide a greater level of Consolidated Volume to NASDAQ and to quote aggressively in Tape A securities. In this regard, the proposed new credit will apply to all other displayed orders (other than Designated Retail Orders, as defined in NASDAQ Rule 7018) in securities listed on NYSE ("Tape A") priced at \$1 or more per share that provide liquidity and establish the NBBO.

#### 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

NASDAQ believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,<sup>5</sup> in general, and with Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> 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 or system

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

which the Exchange operates or controls, and is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest; and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed change to amend Rule 7014(g) is reasonable because it provides an opportunity for members that qualify to receive a rebate of \$0.0004 per share executed for all other displayed orders (other than Designated Retail Orders, as defined in Rule 7018) in Tape A securities priced at \$1 or more per share that provide liquidity and establish the NBBO. Thus the rebate provides incentive to members to provide aggressively priced orders in Tape A securities that improve the market by setting the NBBO. Requiring a higher level of Consolidated Volume than the lower \$0.0002 per share executed tier is consistent with incentivizing member to provide greater market improving activity in the form of Consolidated Volume in return for eligibility for a higher credit. The Exchange believes that it is reasonable to limit the higher credit to Tape A securities because it desires to improve the market on NASDAQ in Tape A securities in terms of setting the NBBO, which is currently not as robust as price setting in non-Tape A securities.

This is similar to other programs originating from the BATS Global Markets 2011 filing. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73967 (January 3, 2011), 80 FR 594 (January 7, 2011) (SR-BATS-2010-038).

NASDAQ believes the proposed change is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the \$0.0004 per share executed rebate under the NBBO Program is available to all members on an equal basis and provides a rebate for activity that improves the Exchange's market quality through increased activity and by encouraging the setting of the NBBO. In this regard, the NBBO Program encourages higher levels of liquidity provision into the price discovery process and is consistent with the overall goals of enhancing market quality. Also, the Exchange believes that the qualification requirement for the new tier is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it represents an increased yet attainable level for members to achieve and to qualify for this higher rebate. In addition, the Exchange notes that the new eligibility standard for the tier, which requires a member to execute shares of liquidity provided in all securities through one or more of its MPIDs that represents 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume during the month, represents a lower Consolidated Volume requirement than the QMM Program, which requires at least 0.70% of Consolidated Volume to qualify under the lowest credit tier. The Exchange believes the proposed qualification standard is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the NBBO Program rebates do not apply to all shares of liquidity provided, and thus the Consolidated Volume threshold is set lower.

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

NASDAQ does not believe that the proposed rule changes will result in any

burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes

See Rule 7014(e).

of the Act, as amended. NASDAO notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, NASDAQ must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and with alternative trading systems that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their order routing practices, NASDAQ believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. In this instance, NASDAQ is proposing to enhance the NBBO Program with an additional and higher rebate opportunity in Tape A securities in return for market improving participation. Consequently, the proposed changes do not impose a burden on competition because the proposed rebate, and incentive programs generally, are reflective of the need for exchanges to offer financial incentives to attract order flow and to let such financial incentives evolve in response to competition. Accordingly, while the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will result in any burden on competition, if the change proposed herein are unattractive to market participants it is likely that NASDAQ will lose market share as a result.

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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(8).

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.<sup>10</sup>

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:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form
   (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2015-084 on the subject line.

#### Paper comments:

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NASDAQ-2015-084. 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 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-NASDAQ-2015-084 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. <sup>11</sup>

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

#### **EXHIBIT 5**

The text of the proposed rule change is below. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are bracketed.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 7014. Market Quality Incentive Programs

#### **Investor Support Program**

(a) - (f) No change.

#### **NBBO Program**

(g) Nasdaq will provide a rebate per share executed with respect to all other displayed orders (other than Designated Retail Orders, as defined in Rule 7018) in securities priced at \$1 or more per share that provide liquidity and establish the NBBO. The rebate will be in addition to any rebate or credit payable under Rule 7018(a) and the ISP and QMM Program under Rule 7014.

To qualify for the \$0.0002 per share executed NBBO Program rebate a member must either:

- (1) Execute shares of liquidity provided in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represents 0.475% or more of Consolidated Volume during the month, or
- (2) Add NOM Market Maker liquidity, as defined in Chapter XV, Section 2 of the Nasdaq Options Market rules, in Penny Pilot Options and/or Non-Penny Pilot Options above 0.90% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month.

To qualify for the \$0.0004 per share executed NBBO Program rebate in NYSE-listed securities (in lieu of the \$0.0002 per share executed rebate above) a member must execute shares of liquidity provided in all securities through one or more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represents 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume during the month.

### **Definitions and Certifications**

(h) - (i) No change.

\* \* \* \* \*