Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

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

Page 1 of * 22		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2015 - * 81 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)				
Filing by NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC.  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	tension of Time Period Commission Action *	Date Expires *		☐ 19b-4(f☐ 19b-4(f	19b-4(f)(5)	
Notice of pr	oposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2) *	ng, and Settlement	Act of 2010	Security-Based Swa 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						
Description  Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  Options Testing Facility						
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	* Angela		Last Name * Duni	n		
Title *	Associate General Co					
E-mail *						
Telephone	( )	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.						
	16/2015 vard S. Knight		Executive Vice Pre	(Title *)	eneral Counsel	
(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.

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

(a) NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC ("Phlx" or "Exchange"), 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> proposes to modify the Phlx Pricing Schedule ("Pricing Schedule"). Specifically, the Exchange proposes to amend its Pricing Schedule at Chapter VII to adopt a new Section E, entitled "Testing Facilities" which describes fees in connection with the use of the Testing Facility ("NTF") test environment located in Carteret, New Jersey.

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated that the amendments be operative on October 26, 2015.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 1</u> and a copy of applicable portion of the Exchange's Pricing Schedule is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

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

## 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

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

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

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

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

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Saccomandi Dunn, Associate General Counsel, Nasdag, Inc. at (215) 496-5692.

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

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

Phlx proposes to amend its Pricing Schedule at Chapter VII to adopt a new Section E, entitled "Testing Facilities" to establish fees to subscribe for testing. Currently, Options members may test in a virtual trading environment for purposes of testing in Ashburn, Virginia ("Ashburn"), at no cost. The NTF provides subscribers a virtual system environment for testing upcoming Phlx releases and product enhancements, as well as testing firm software prior to implementation. The test environment closely approximates the production environment to enable subscribers to test their automated systems that integrate with the Exchange.

The Exchange is moving the options test environment from the Ashburn location to Carteret, NJ ("Carteret"), which is also the location of Phlx's primary trading System. While Options members will be able to continue to utilize the Ashburn facility at no cost until that facility is no longer in use, Options members will be able to subscribe to the Carteret test facility for future testing.<sup>3</sup>

The relatively large distance between the Ashburn Testing Facility and the majority of Phlx firms results in expensive connectivity costs for customers that connect via telecommunication providers. As a consequence, a large majority of member firms do not connect to Ashburn for NTF connectivity. In an effort to improve the utility of the NTF, Phlx is developing a test environment located in Carteret that will provide the same functionality as the testing functionality of Ashburn, yet more closely approximate the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Exchange anticipates that it will sunset the Ashburn trading testing functionality on January 29, 2016.

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live trading environment due to its proximity to the System and upgraded hardware. In particular, the Carteret test environment will take advantage of technology upgrades Phlx is making to its trading-related systems. Unlike the Ashburn test environment, the Carteret test environment will provide dedicated connectivity to the facility via a cross-connection to either a member firm's direct connection router in Carteret or its colocation cabinet.

Phlx notes that, because the Carteret facility also houses the System, subscribers to the Carteret test environment will no longer need to pay for third party connectivity to Ashburn, provided the sole purpose for connecting to Ashburn is for testing and not also for co-location or disaster recovery. Such member firms may use an existing connection to Carteret to access the NTF through the use of a dedicated switch port and cross connect within the facility. Similar to the equities test facility, the Exchange will assess a fee for the connection to this virtual trading environment for testing. Specifically, Phlx proposes a \$1,000 per hand-off, per month fee for connection to the Testing Facility. The hand-off fee includes either a 1Gb or 10Gb switch port and a cross connect to the Testing Facility. Subscribers shall also pay a one-time installation fee of \$1,000 per hand-off.

The connectivity provided under this rule also provides connectivity to the other test environments of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC and NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. Additionally, the connectivity may be utilized for either equities or options testing. If for example a Phlx member has already paid the \$1,000 per hand-off, per month for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Today, member firms pay fees to third party connectivity providers to provide connection from the member firm to Ashburn.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>See</u> Phlx's Pricing Schedule at Chapter VIII concerning equities pricing.

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connection to the Testing Facility in Carteret, there would be no need to pay this fee for options testing.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Phlx will also continue to offer certain limited testing capabilities free of charge at Carteret. Options members that connect to Cartert's NTF through a virtual private network ("VPN") through the internet for site-to-site limited order routing capability only will not be assessed a fee.

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

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>6</sup> in general, and with Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in particular. Phlx believes the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>8</sup> 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.

The proposed fees are equitably allocated because all Options members desiring to connect to the Carteret test environment will be assessed a uniform fee for those services. The Exchange believes that offering subscribers the option to subscribe to either 1Gb or 10Gb for the same fee is an equitable allocation because, unlike the live trading environment, there is no competitive advantage to possessing a higher capacity switch port in the test environment. The test environment is designed to closely mirror the live trading environment for Options members, including matching the capacity of

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

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each Options member's live environment switch port. In the absence of any competitive advantage, charging a uniform fee for both 1Gb and 10Gb switch ports is an equitable allocation of fees. Phlx believes that charging a uniform fee will encourage member firms to subscribe to Carteret, and further encourage those that subscribe to use the same hardware as is used by them for connectivity to the live trading environment.

The proposed fees are reasonable because they are designed to cover the costs incurred by the Exchange to develop the test facility and the costs incurred by the Exchange to continue to offer the test environment. The proposed fee should allow the Exchange to recoup these costs and also make a profit, while providing Options members with a superior test environment that more closely mirrors that of the live trading environment on the Exchange. Phlx believes that offering both 1Gb and 10Gb connectivity for the same fee is reasonable as the increased incremental cost it incurs by offering the 10Gb switch port at the lower fee is outweighed by the benefit all subscribers will receive if Options members use hardware identical to what they use in the live trading environment, hence furthering the goal of creating a test environment that closely mirrors the live trading environment.

Further, the connectivity provided under this rule also provides connectivity to the other test environments of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC and NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. This connectivity may be utilized for either equities or options testing. If for example a Phlx member has already paid the \$1,000 per hand-off, per month for connection to the Testing Facility in Carteret, there would be no need to pay this fee for options testing.

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The Exchange also believes the proposal furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>9</sup> in that it is designed 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 and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customer, issuers, brokers and dealers. Phlx does not believe that the proposed fees are unfairly discriminatory to subscribers utilizing 10Gb live trading environment connectivity because, unlike the live trading environment where the capacity of connectivity to Phlx may confer a competitive advantage to a market participant and therefore price differentiation is appropriate for the benefit conferred, there is no such benefit conferred in the trade test environment. Phlx does not believe that the proposed fees are unfairly discriminatory among subscribers to the Carteret test facility because all Options members that subscribe to the service will be assessed the same fees. Because the proposed fees do not discriminate between 1Gb and 10Gb connectivity options, Options members are able to subscribe to Carteret without regard to the cost of their switch port capacity election. Phlx believes that by not discriminating on this basis it will encourage members to connect to the Carteret test environment in the same manner as they do to the live trading environment, and thereby help Carteret more closely mirror the live test environment, as discussed above. Providing a more useful and accurate test environment will serve to improve live trading on Phlx and the national market system by permitting Options members the ability to accurately test changes prior to implementing them in the live trading environment,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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thereby reducing the likelihood of a potentially disruptive system failure in the live trading environment, which has the potential to affect all market participants.

Finally, the Exchange will continue to offer Options members certain limited testing capabilities free of charge at Carteret through VPN. While this feature offers limited capability in terms of functionality, the Exchange continues to offer a free of charge alternative to Options Participants desiring to utilize the NTF.

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

Phlx does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any intra-market or inter-market burdens on competition that are not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. The proposed fees for access to the Carteret test environment more closely approximate the live trading environment. Subscribing member firms will be able to more accurately test their trading systems and avoid potentially disruptive system failures in the live trading environment. Despite the fee that will now be assessed to Options members for testing, the Exchange believes that Options members utilizing this service will benefit from the move to Carteret because the test environment is designed to closely mirror the live trading environment for Options members, including matching the capacity of each Options member's live environment switch port.

Also, the connectivity provided under this rule also provides connectivity to the other test environments of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC and NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. Members that are already connected for equities testing would not incur an additional charge. This connectivity may be utilized for either equities or options testing. Finally, subscribing to the test facility is optional.

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Additionally, the Exchange does not believe that the move to Carteret and imposition of connectivity fees to the NTF creates an undue burden on competition because the Exchange will continue to offer Options members certain limited testing capabilities free of charge at Carteret through VPN.

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,<sup>10</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed 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.

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

Not applicable.

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

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

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- 1. Notice of proposed rule for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.
- 5. Applicable portion of the Exchange's Pricing Schedule.

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**EXHIBIT 1** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-Phlx-2015-81)

October \_\_\_, 2015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Options Testing Facility

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 October 16, 2015, NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC ("Phlx" 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 its Pricing Schedule at Chapter VII to adopt a new Section E, entitled "Testing Facilities" which describes fees in connection with the use of the Testing Facility ("NTF") test environment located in Carteret, New Jersey.

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated that the amendments be operative on October 26, 2015.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <a href="http://nasdaqomxphlx.cchwallstreet.com/">http://nasdaqomxphlx.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.

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

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

Phlx proposes to amend its Pricing Schedule at Chapter VII to adopt a new Section E, entitled "Testing Facilities" to establish fees to subscribe for testing. Currently, Options members may test in a virtual trading environment for purposes of testing in Ashburn, Virginia ("Ashburn"), at no cost. The NTF provides subscribers a virtual system environment for testing upcoming Phlx releases and product enhancements, as well as testing firm software prior to implementation. The test environment closely approximates the production environment to enable subscribers to test their automated systems that integrate with the Exchange.

The Exchange is moving the options test environment from the Ashburn location to Carteret, NJ ("Carteret"), which is also the location of Phlx's primary trading System. While Options members will be able to continue to utilize the Ashburn facility at no cost until that facility is no longer in use, Options members will be able to subscribe to the Carteret test facility for future testing.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Exchange anticipates that it will sunset the Ashburn trading testing functionality on January 29, 2016.

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The relatively large distance between the Ashburn Testing Facility and the majority of Phlx firms results in expensive connectivity costs for customers that connect via telecommunication providers. As a consequence, a large majority of member firms do not connect to Ashburn for NTF connectivity. In an effort to improve the utility of the NTF, Phlx is developing a test environment located in Carteret that will provide the same functionality as the testing functionality of Ashburn, yet more closely approximate the live trading environment due to its proximity to the System and upgraded hardware. In particular, the Carteret test environment will take advantage of technology upgrades Phlx is making to its trading-related systems. Unlike the Ashburn test environment, the Carteret test environment will provide dedicated connectivity to the facility via a cross-connection to either a member firm's direct connection router in Carteret or its colocation cabinet.

Phlx notes that, because the Carteret facility also houses the System, subscribers to the Carteret test environment will no longer need to pay for third party connectivity to Ashburn,<sup>4</sup> provided the sole purpose for connecting to Ashburn is for testing and not also for co-location or disaster recovery. Such member firms may use an existing connection to Carteret to access the NTF through the use of a dedicated switch port and cross connect within the facility. Similar to the equities test facility,<sup>5</sup> the Exchange will assess a fee for the connection to this virtual trading environment for testing. Specifically, Phlx proposes a \$1,000 per hand-off, per month fee for connection to the Testing Facility. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Today, member firms pay fees to third party connectivity providers to provide connection from the member firm to Ashburn.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>See</u> Phlx's Pricing Schedule at Chapter VIII concerning equities pricing.

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hand-off fee includes either a 1Gb or 10Gb switch port and a cross connect to the Testing Facility. Subscribers shall also pay a one-time installation fee of \$1,000 per hand-off.

The connectivity provided under this rule also provides connectivity to the other test environments of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC and NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. Additionally, the connectivity may be utilized for either equities or options testing. If for example a Phlx member has already paid the \$1,000 per hand-off, per month for connection to the Testing Facility in Carteret, there would be no need to pay this fee for options testing.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, Phlx will also continue to offer certain limited testing capabilities free of charge at Carteret. Options members that connect to Cartert's NTF through a virtual private network ("VPN") through the internet for site-to-site limited order routing capability only will not be assessed a fee.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>6</sup> in general, and with Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in particular. Phlx believes the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act<sup>8</sup> 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.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

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The proposed fees are equitably allocated because all Options members desiring to connect to the Carteret test environment will be assessed a uniform fee for those services. The Exchange believes that offering subscribers the option to subscribe to either 1Gb or 10Gb for the same fee is an equitable allocation because, unlike the live trading environment, there is no competitive advantage to possessing a higher capacity switch port in the test environment. The test environment is designed to closely mirror the live trading environment for Options members, including matching the capacity of each Options member's live environment switch port. In the absence of any competitive advantage, charging a uniform fee for both 1Gb and 10Gb switch ports is an equitable allocation of fees. Phlx believes that charging a uniform fee will encourage member firms to subscribe to Carteret, and further encourage those that subscribe to use the same hardware as is used by them for connectivity to the live trading environment.

The proposed fees are reasonable because they are designed to cover the costs incurred by the Exchange to develop the test facility and the costs incurred by the Exchange to continue to offer the test environment. The proposed fee should allow the Exchange to recoup these costs and also make a profit, while providing Options members with a superior test environment that more closely mirrors that of the live trading environment on the Exchange. Phlx believes that offering both 1Gb and 10Gb connectivity for the same fee is reasonable as the increased incremental cost it incurs by offering the 10Gb switch port at the lower fee is outweighed by the benefit all subscribers will receive if Options members use hardware identical to what they use in the live trading environment, hence furthering the goal of creating a test environment that closely mirrors the live trading environment.

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Further, the connectivity provided under this rule also provides connectivity to the other test environments of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC and NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. This connectivity may be utilized for either equities or options testing. If for example a Phlx member has already paid the \$1,000 per hand-off, per month for connection to the Testing Facility in Carteret, there would be no need to pay this fee for options testing.

The Exchange also believes the proposal furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>9</sup> in that it is designed 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 and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customer, issuers, brokers and dealers. Phlx does not believe that the proposed fees are unfairly discriminatory to subscribers utilizing 10Gb live trading environment connectivity because, unlike the live trading environment where the capacity of connectivity to Phlx may confer a competitive advantage to a market participant and therefore price differentiation is appropriate for the benefit conferred, there is no such benefit conferred in the trade test environment. Phlx does not believe that the proposed fees are unfairly discriminatory among subscribers to the Carteret test facility because all Options members that subscribe to the service will be assessed the same fees. Because the proposed fees do not discriminate between 1Gb and 10Gb connectivity options, Options members are able to subscribe to Carteret without regard to the cost of their switch port capacity election. Phlx believes that by not discriminating on this basis it will encourage members to connect to the Carteret test

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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environment in the same manner as they do to the live trading environment, and thereby help Carteret more closely mirror the live test environment, as discussed above. Providing a more useful and accurate test environment will serve to improve live trading on Phlx and the national market system by permitting Options members the ability to accurately test changes prior to implementing them in the live trading environment, thereby reducing the likelihood of a potentially disruptive system failure in the live trading environment, which has the potential to affect all market participants.

Finally, the Exchange will continue to offer Options members certain limited testing capabilities free of charge at Carteret through VPN. While this feature offers limited capability in terms of functionality, the Exchange continues to offer a free of charge alternative to Options Participants desiring to utilize the NTF.

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

BX does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any intra-market or inter-market burdens on competition that are not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. The proposed fees for access to the Carteret test environment more closely approximate the live trading environment. Subscribing member firms will be able to more accurately test their trading systems and avoid potentially disruptive system failures in the live trading environment. Despite the fee that will now be assessed to Options members for testing, the Exchange believes that Options members utilizing this service will benefit from the move to Carteret because the test environment is designed to closely mirror the live trading environment for Options members, including matching the capacity of each Options member's live environment switch port.

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Also, the connectivity provided under this rule also provides connectivity to the other test environments of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC and NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. Members that are already connected for equities testing would not incur an additional charge. This connectivity may be utilized for either equities or options testing. Finally, subscribing to the test facility is optional.

Additionally, the Exchange does not believe that the move to Carteret and imposition of connectivity fees to the NTF creates an undue burden on competition because the Exchange will continue to offer Options members certain limited testing capabilities free of charge at Carteret through VPN.

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

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.

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

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## 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-Phlx-2015-81 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.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2015-81. 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

# (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>).

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

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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-Phlx-2015-81 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.  $^{11}$ 

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

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

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#### Exhibit 5

New text is underlined.

NASDAQ OMX PHLX LLC<sup>1</sup> PRICING SCHEDULE
ALL BILLING DISPUTES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXCHANGE IN
WRITING AND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION.
ALL DISPUTES MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER
RECEIPT OF A BILLING INVOICE, EXCEPT FOR DISPUTES CONCERNING
NASDAQ OMX PSX FEES, PROPRIETARY DATA FEED FEES AND CO-LOCATION
SERVICES FEES. AS OF JANUARY 3, 2011, THE EXCHANGE WILL CALCULATE
FEES ON A TRADE DATE BASIS.

<sup>1</sup>PHLX<sup>®</sup> is a registered trademark of The NASDAQ OMX Group, Inc.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### VII. OTHER MEMBER FEES

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **E.** Testing Facilities

The Exchange operates a test environment in Carteret, New Jersey. References to the "Testing Facility" refers to this test environment.

Subscribers to the Testing Facility shall pay a fee of \$1,000 per hand-off, per month for connection to the Testing Facility. The hand-off fee includes either a 1Gb or 10Gb switch port and a cross connect to the Testing Facility. Subscribers shall also pay a one-time installation fee of \$1,000 per hand-off.

The connectivity provided under this rule also provides connectivity to the other test environments of The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC and NASDAQ OMX BX, Inc. Additionally, the connectivity may be utilized for either equities or options testing.

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