

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- Enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, *e.g.* permitting electronic submissions of responses.

ADDRESSES: For a copy of the documents contact: Kim A. Miller, Grants Specialist (Detail), Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 955 L'Enfant Plaza North SW., Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20024-2135. Ms. Miller can be reached by *Telephone:* 202-653-4762, *Fax:* 202-653-4762, or by email at *kmiller@imls.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) is an independent Federal grant-making agency and is the primary source of federal support for the Nation's 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. IMLS provides a variety of grant programs to assist the Nation's museums and libraries in improving their operations and enhancing their services to the public. The IMLS Grants to States program is the largest source of federal funding support for library services in the United States. Using a population-based formula, more than \$150 million is distributed among the State Library Administrative Agencies.

II. Current Actions

The Library Services and Technology Act requires each State Library Administrative Agency to submit a plan that details library services goals for a five-year period. Pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 9134, each State Library Administrative Agency (SLAA) that receives an IMLS grant under the Grants to States Program is required to evaluate and report to the agency, prior to the end of their five-year plan, regarding the activities assisted under the LSTA. Each SLAA receives IMLS funding to support the five year period through a series of overlapping two year grant awards. Each SLAA must file interim and final financial reports, as well as final performance reports for each of these two year grants through IMLS' State Program Reporting (SPR) system. The purpose of the proposed information

collection is to enhance the reporting of the two year grants through enhanced evaluation and performance measures of beneficiaries.

Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Title: Grants to States, State Program Report, Enhancements in Outcome-Based, Performance Measures and Evaluation.

OMB Number: 3137-0071.

Agency Number: 3137.

Type of Review: Revision to an existing collection.

Affected Public: State Library Administrative Agencies.

Number of Respondents: 55.

Note: 55 is the number of State Library Administrative Agencies that are responsible for the collection of this information and for reporting it to IMLS.

Frequency: Once every two years.

Burden hours per respondent: To be determined.

Total burden hours: To be determined.

Total Annualized capital/startup costs: To be determined.

Total Annual Costs: To be determined.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Stephanie Burwell, Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, Institute of Museum and Library Services, 955 L'Enfant Plaza North SW., Suite 4000, Washington, DC 20024-2135. Ms. Burwell can be reached by *Telephone:* 202-653-4684, *Fax:* 202-653-4625, or by email at *sburwell@imls.gov* or by teletype (TTY/TDD at 202-653-4614. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Dated: April 27, 2016.

Kim A. Miller,

Grants Specialist (Detail), Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016-10183 Filed 4-29-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7036-01-P

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

PLACE: NTSB Conference Center, 429 L'Enfant Plaza SW., Washington, DC 20594.

STATUS: The one item is open to the public.

MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED:

8714B *Railroad Accident Report—Derailment of Amtrak Passenger Train 188, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, May 12, 2015.*

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: Telephone: (202) 314-6100.

The press and public may enter the NTSB Conference Center one hour prior to the meeting for set up and seating.

Individuals requesting specific accommodations should contact Rochelle Hall at (202) 314-6305 or by email at *Rochelle.Hall@ntsb.gov* by Wednesday, May 11, 2016.

The public may view the meeting via a live or archived webcast by accessing a link under "News & Events" on the NTSB home page at *www.nts.gov*.

Schedule updates, including weather-related cancellations, are also available at *www.nts.gov*.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Candi Bing at (202) 314-6403 or by email at *binc@ntsb.gov*.

FOR MEDIA INFORMATION CONTACT: Peter Knudson at (202) 314-6100 or by email at *peter.knudson@ntsb.gov*.

Dated: April 28, 2016.

Candi R. Bing,

Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 2016-10280 Filed 4-28-16; 11:15 am]

BILLING CODE 7533-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-77705; File No. SR-Nasdaq-2016-002]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC; Order Instituting Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1 Thereto, To List and Trade Shares of the First Trust Municipal High Income ETF of First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund III

April 26, 2016.

I. Introduction

On January 6, 2016, The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to list and trade shares ("Shares") of the First Trust Municipal High Income ETF ("Fund") under Nasdaq Rule 5735. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on January 27, 2016.³ On February 16, 2016, the

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 76944 (Jan. 21, 2016), 81 FR 4712 ("Notice").

Exchange filed Amendment No. 1.⁴ On March 8, 2016, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁵ the Commission designated a longer period within which to approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change.⁶ The Commission received no comments on the proposed rule change. This order institutes proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act⁷ to determine whether to approve or disapprove the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1 thereto.

II. Description of the Proposal

Nasdaq proposes to list and trade Shares of the Fund under Nasdaq Rule 5735, which governs the listing and trading of Managed Fund Shares on the Exchange. The Shares will be offered by the First Trust Exchange-Traded Fund III ("Trust"), a Massachusetts business

trust registered with the Commission as an open-end investment company.⁸ First Trust Advisors L.P. will be the investment manager to the Fund ("Adviser"),⁹ and First Trust Portfolios L.P. will serve as the principal underwriter and distributor for the Fund. Brown Brothers Harriman & Co. will act as the administrator, accounting agent, custodian and transfer agent to the Fund.

The Exchange has made the following representations and statements in describing the Fund and its investment strategy, including other portfolio holdings and investment restrictions.¹⁰

A. Principal Investments of the Fund

The primary investment objective of the Fund will be to generate current income that is exempt from regular federal income taxes, and its secondary objective will be long-term capital appreciation. Under normal market conditions,¹¹ the Fund will seek to

achieve its investment objectives by investing at least 80% of its net assets (including investment borrowings) in Municipal Securities.¹² Municipal Securities are generally issued by or on behalf of states, territories or possessions of the U.S. and the District of Columbia and their political subdivisions, agencies, authorities and other instrumentalities. The types of Municipal Securities in which the Fund may invest include municipal lease obligations (and certificates of participation in such obligations), municipal general obligation bonds, municipal revenue bonds, municipal notes, municipal cash equivalents, private activity bonds (including without limitation industrial development bonds), and pre-refunded and escrowed to maturity bonds. In addition, Municipal Securities include securities issued by entities whose underlying assets are municipal bonds (*i.e.*, tender option bond (TOB) trusts and custodial receipts trusts). The Fund may invest in Municipal Securities of any maturity.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 65% of its net assets in Municipal Securities that are, at the time of investment, rated below investment grade (*i.e.*, not rated Baa3/BBB— or above) by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO") rating such securities (or Municipal Securities that are unrated and determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality)¹³

financial markets generally; operational issues causing dissemination of inaccurate market information; or *force majeure* type events such as systems failure, natural or man-made disaster, act of God, armed conflict, act of terrorism, riot or labor disruption or any similar intervening circumstance. On a temporary basis, including for defensive purposes, during the initial invest-up period and during periods of high cash inflows or outflows, the Fund may depart from its principal investment strategies; for example, it may hold a higher than normal proportion of its assets in cash. During such periods, the Fund may not be able to achieve its investment objectives. The Fund may adopt a defensive strategy when the Adviser believes securities in which the Fund normally invests have elevated risks due to political or economic factors and in other extraordinary circumstances.

¹² According to the Exchange, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its net assets in Municipal Securities that pay interest that generates income subject to the federal alternative minimum tax, assuming compliance with the investment requirements and limitations described herein.

¹³ Comparable quality of unrated Municipal Securities will be determined by the Adviser based on fundamental credit analysis of the unrated security and comparable rated securities. On a best efforts basis, the Adviser will attempt to make a rating determination based on publicly available data. In making a "comparable quality" determination, the Adviser may consider, for example, whether the issuer of the security has issued other rated securities, the nature and provisions of the relevant security, whether the

⁴ In Amendment No. 1, the Exchange clarified that the Fund's portfolio will satisfy the following quantitative standards set forth NASDAQ 5705(b)(4)(A) except for those in Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(4)(A)(ii): (i) The index or portfolio must consist of Fixed Income Securities; (ii) Components that in aggregate account for at least 75% of the weight of the index or portfolio must have a minimum original principal amount outstanding of \$100 million or more; (iii) A component may be a convertible security, however, once the convertible security component converts to an underlying equity security, the component is removed from the index or portfolio; (iv) No component fixed-income security (excluding Treasury Securities) will represent more than 30% of the weight of the index or portfolio, and the five highest weighted component fixed-income securities do not in the aggregate account for more than 65% of the weight of the index or portfolio; (v) An underlying index or portfolio (excluding exempted securities) must include securities from a minimum of 13 non-affiliated issuers; and (vi) Component securities that in aggregate account for at least 90% of the weight of the index or portfolio must be either: (a) From issuers that are required to file reports pursuant to Sections 13 and 15(d) of the Act; (b) from issuers that have a worldwide market value of its outstanding common equity held by non-affiliates of \$700 million or more; (c) from issuers that have outstanding securities that are notes, bonds, debentures, or evidence of indebtedness having a total remaining principal amount of at least \$1 billion; (d) exempted securities as defined in section 3(a)(12) of the Act; or (e) from issuers that are a government of a foreign country or a political subdivision of a foreign country. Because Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change is technical in nature and does not materially alter the substance of the proposed rule change or raise any novel regulatory issues, it is not subject to notice and comment. Amendment No. 1 is available on the Commission's Web site at: <http://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-nasdaq-2016-002/nasdaq2016002-1.pdf>.

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁶ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-77320, 81 FR 13429 (Mar. 14, 2016). The Commission designated April 26, 2016 as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

⁸ The Trust is registered with the Commission as an investment company and has filed a registration statement on Form N-1A ("Registration Statement") with the Commission. See Post-Effective Amendment No. 27 to Registration Statement on Form N-1A for the Trust, dated August 31, 2015 (File Nos. 333-176976 and 811-22245). In addition, the Exchange represents that the Commission has issued an order, upon which the Trust may rely, granting certain exemptive relief under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("1940 Act"). See Investment Company Act Release No. 30029 (April 10, 2012) (File No. 812-13795).

⁹ The Exchange represents that the Adviser is not a broker-dealer, but it is affiliated with the Distributor, a broker-dealer, and has implemented a fire wall with respect to its broker-dealer affiliate regarding access to information concerning the composition of or changes to the portfolio. The Exchange further represents that personnel who make decisions on the Fund's portfolio composition will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding the Fund's portfolio. In the event (a) the Adviser or any sub-adviser registers as a broker-dealer or becomes newly affiliated with a broker-dealer, or (b) any new adviser or sub-adviser is a registered broker-dealer or becomes affiliated with another broker-dealer, the adviser or sub-adviser will implement a fire wall with respect to its relevant personnel and/or such broker-dealer affiliate, as applicable, regarding access to information concerning the composition of and changes to the portfolio and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding such portfolio. See Notice, *supra* note 3, at 4713.

¹⁰ The Commission notes that additional information regarding the Fund, the Trust, and the Shares, including investment strategies, risks, creation and redemption procedures, fees, portfolio holdings disclosure policies, calculation of net asset value ("NAV"), distributions, and taxes, among other things, can be found in the Notice and the Registration Statement, as applicable. See Notice and Registration Statement, *supra* notes 3 and 5, respectively.

¹¹ The term "under normal market conditions" as used herein includes, but is not limited to, the absence of adverse market, economic, political or other conditions, including extreme volatility or trading halts in the fixed income markets or the

(commonly referred to as “high yield” or “junk” bonds);¹⁴ however, the Fund will consider pre-refunded or escrowed to maturity bonds, regardless of rating, to be investment grade securities. The Fund may invest up to 35% of its net assets in Municipal Securities that are, at the time of investment, rated investment grade (*i.e.*, rated Baa3/BBB— or above) by each NRSRO rating such securities (or Municipal Securities that are unrated and determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality). If, subsequent to purchase by the Fund, a Municipal Security held by the Fund experiences an improvement in credit quality and becomes investment grade, the Fund may continue to hold the Municipal Security and it will not cause the Fund to violate the 35% investment limitation; however, the Municipal Security will be taken into account for purposes of determining whether purchases of additional Municipal Securities will cause the Fund to violate such limitation.

B. Other (Non-Principal) Investments of the Fund

The Exchange represents that the non-principal investments listed below would consist of investments that are not included in the Fund’s 80% Policy. Such assets may be invested in the Fixed Income Instruments and other instruments, as described below.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest substantially all of its assets to meet its investment objectives as described above. In addition, the Fund may invest its assets or hold cash as generally described below.

The Exchange represents that the Fund may invest up to 10% of its net assets in taxable municipal securities. The Fund may also invest up to 10% of its net assets in short-term debt instruments,¹⁵ money market funds, and

obligations under the relevant security are guaranteed by another entity and the rating of such guarantor (if any), relevant cash flows, macroeconomic analysis, and/or sector or industry analysis.

¹⁴ The Municipal Securities in which the Fund will invest to satisfy this 65% investment requirement may include Municipal Securities that are currently in default and not expected to pay the current coupon (“Distressed Municipal Securities”). The Fund may invest up to 10% of its net assets in Distressed Municipal Securities. If, subsequent to purchase by the Fund, a Municipal Security held by the Fund becomes a Distressed Municipal Security, the Fund may continue to hold the Distressed Municipal Security and it will not cause the Fund to violate the 10% limitation; however, the Distressed Municipal Security will be taken into account for purposes of determining whether purchases of additional Municipal Securities will cause the Fund to violate such limitation.

¹⁵ Short-term debt instruments, which do not include Municipal Securities, are issued by issuers having a long-term debt rating of at least A–/A3 (as

other cash equivalents, or it may hold cash. The percentage of the Fund invested in such holdings or held in cash will vary and will depend on several factors, including market conditions.

With respect to up to 20% of its net assets, the Fund may (i) invest in the securities of other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act, including money market funds, other ETFs, open-end funds (other than money market funds and other ETFs), and closed-end funds and (ii) acquire short positions in the securities of the foregoing investment companies.

With respect to up to 20% of its net assets, the Fund may (i) invest in exchange-listed options on U.S. Treasury securities, exchange-listed options on U.S. Treasury futures contracts, and exchange-listed U.S. Treasury futures contracts and (ii) acquire short positions in the foregoing derivatives. Transactions in the foregoing derivatives may allow the Fund to obtain net long or short exposures to selected interest rates. These derivatives may also be used to hedge risks, including interest rate risks and credit risks, associated with the Fund’s portfolio investments. The Fund’s investments in derivative instruments will be consistent with the Fund’s investment objectives and the 1940 Act and will not be used to seek to achieve a multiple or inverse multiple of an index.

C. Investment Restrictions

The Exchange represents that the Fund may hold up to an aggregate amount of 15% of its net assets in illiquid assets (calculated at the time of investment), including Rule 144A securities deemed illiquid by the Adviser.¹⁶ The Exchange further

applicable) by Standard & Poor’s Ratings Services (“S&P Ratings”), Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”) or Fitch Ratings (“Fitch”) and have a maturity of one year or less. According to the Exchange, the Fund may invest in the following short-term debt instruments: (1) Fixed rate and floating rate U.S. government securities, including bills, notes, and bonds differing as to maturity and rates of interest, which are either issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Treasury or by U.S. government agencies or instrumentalities; (2) certificates of deposit issued against funds deposited in a bank or savings and loan association; (3) bankers’ acceptances, which are short-term credit instruments used to finance commercial transactions; (4) repurchase agreements, which involve purchases of debt securities; (5) bank time deposits, which are monies kept on deposit with banks or savings and loan associations for a stated period of time at a fixed rate of interest; and (6) commercial paper (rated A–3 or higher by S&P Ratings, Prime-3 or higher by Moody’s or F3 or higher by Fitch), which is short-term unsecured promissory notes.

¹⁶ In reaching liquidity decisions, the Adviser may consider the following factors: The frequency

represents that the Fund will monitor its portfolio liquidity on an ongoing basis to determine whether, in light of current circumstances, an adequate level of liquidity is being maintained, and will consider taking appropriate steps in order to maintain adequate liquidity if, through a change in values, net assets, or other circumstances, more than 15% of the Fund’s net assets are held in illiquid assets.

The Fund may not invest 25% or more of the value of its total assets in securities of issuers in any one industry, although this restriction does not apply to (a) Municipal Securities issued by governments or political subdivisions of governments, (b) obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities, or (c) securities of other investment companies.

D. Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(4)(A)

The Fund will be actively managed and will not be tied to an index. Under normal market conditions, on a continuous basis determined at the time of purchase, its portfolio of Municipal Securities¹⁷ will generally meet, as applicable, all criteria for non-actively managed, index-based, fixed income ETFs contained in Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(4)(A) except for those set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(4)(A)(ii), which requires that components that in the aggregate account for at least 75% of the weight of the index or portfolio have a minimum original principal amount outstanding of \$100 million or more. However, under normal market conditions, at least 40% (based on dollar amount invested) of the Municipal Securities in which the Fund invests will be issued by issuers with total outstanding debt issuances that, in the aggregate, have a minimum original principal amount outstanding of \$75 million or more, which according to the Exchange, should provide support regarding the anticipated liquidity of the Fund’s Municipal Securities portfolio.

of trades and quotes for the security; the number of dealers wishing to purchase or sell the security and the number of other potential purchasers; dealer undertakings to make a market in the security; and the nature of the security and the nature of the marketplace in which it trades (*e.g.*, the time needed to dispose of the security, the method of soliciting offers and the mechanics of transfer).

¹⁷ According to the Exchange, for purposes of this statement and the discussion of the requirements of Nasdaq Rule 5705(b)(4)(A), with respect to Municipal Securities that are issued by entities whose underlying assets are municipal bonds, the underlying municipal bonds, rather than the securities issued by such entities, will be taken into account.

III. Proceedings To Determine Whether To Approve or Disapprove SR–Nasdaq–2016–002 and Grounds for Disapproval Under Consideration

The Commission is instituting proceedings pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act¹⁸ to determine whether the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1 thereto, should be approved or disapproved. Institution of such proceedings is appropriate at this time in view of the legal and policy issues raised by the proposed rule change. Institution of proceedings does not indicate that the Commission has reached any conclusions with respect to any of the issues involved. Rather, as described below, the Commission seeks and encourages interested persons to provide comments on the proposed rule change.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act,¹⁹ the Commission is providing notice of the grounds for disapproval under consideration. The Commission is instituting proceedings to allow for additional analysis of the proposed rule change's consistency with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, which requires, among other things, that the rules of a national securities exchange be "designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade," and "to protect investors and the public interest."²⁰

IV. Procedure: Request for Written Comments

The Commission requests that interested persons provide written submissions of their views, data, and arguments with respect to the issues identified above, as well as any other concerns they may have with the proposal. In particular, the Commission invites the written views of interested persons concerning whether the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) or any other provision of the Act, or the rules and regulations thereunder. Although there do not appear to be any issues relevant to approval or disapproval that would be facilitated by an oral presentation of views, data, and arguments, the Commission will consider, pursuant to Rule 19b–4, any request for an opportunity to make an oral presentation.²¹

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments regarding whether the proposal should be approved or disapproved by May 23, 2016. Any person who wishes to file a rebuttal to any other person's submission must file that rebuttal by June 6, 2016. The Commission asks that commenters address the sufficiency of the Exchange's statements in support of the proposal, which are set forth in the Notice²² and in Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change,²³ in addition to any other comments they may wish to submit about the proposed rule change.

The Exchange provides that the Fund may invest in one or more of the following broad categories of Municipal Securities:²⁴ (a) Municipal lease obligations; (b) municipal general obligation bonds; (c) municipal revenue bonds; (d) municipal notes; (e) municipal cash equivalents; (f) private activity bonds; and (g) pre-refunded and escrowed to maturity bonds. Moreover, the Exchange represents that under normal market conditions: (i) No component fixed income security (excluding Treasury securities) will represent more than 30% of the weight of the index or portfolio, and that the five highest weighted component fixed income securities will not in the aggregate account for more than 65% of the weight of the index or portfolio; (ii) component securities that in the aggregate account for at least 90% of the weight of the index or portfolio be either exempted securities or from a specified type of issuer; (iii) at least 40% (based on dollar amount invested) of the Municipal Securities in which the Fund invests will be issued by issuers with total outstanding debt issuances that, in the aggregate, have a minimum original principal amount outstanding of \$75 million or more; and (iv) the underlying index or portfolio (excluding one consisting entirely of exempted securities) will include securities from a minimum of 13 non-affiliated issuers.

Apart from these broad representations, the Exchange provides no other information about the kinds of municipal bonds in which the Fund may invest. Accordingly, the

particular proposal by a self-regulatory organization. See Securities Act Amendments of 1975, Senate Comm. on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs, S. Rep. No. 75, 94th Cong., 1st Sess. 30 (1975).

²² See *supra* note 3.

²³ See *supra* note 4.

²⁴ In addition, Municipal Securities include securities issued by entities whose underlying assets are municipal bonds (*i.e.*, tender option bond (TOB) trusts and custodial receipts trusts).

Commission seeks comment on whether the Exchange's representations relating to the Municipal Securities to be held by the Fund are sufficient to limit the susceptibility of the portfolio to manipulation, and are consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, which, among other things, requires that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices.

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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR–Nasdaq–2016–002 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

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

All submissions should refer to File Numbers SR–Nasdaq–2016–002. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 Web site 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 these filings 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–2016–002 and should be submitted on or before May 23, 2016. Rebuttal comments should be submitted by June 6, 2016.

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

²¹ Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, as amended by the Securities Act Amendments of 1975, Public Law 94–29 (June 4, 1975), grants the Commission flexibility to determine what type of proceeding—either oral or notice and opportunity for written comments—is appropriate for consideration of a

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁵

Robert W. Errett,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2016-10146 Filed 4-29-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-77708; File No. SR-NYSE-2016-16]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 1 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of a Proposed Rule Change, as Modified by Amendment No. 1, To Amend NYSE Rule 98 To Provide That, When Designated Market Makers Enter Interest for the Purpose of Facilitating the Execution of Customer Orders, Those Orders Would Not Be Required To Be Designated as DMM Interest

April 26, 2016.

I. Introduction

On March 4, 2016, New York Stock Exchange LLC (“Exchange” or “NYSE”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”) ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² a proposed rule change to amend NYSE Rule 98 governing the operation of a Designated Market Maker (“DMM”) Unit. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the *Federal Register* on March 15, 2016. ³ The Commission received no comments on the proposed rule change. On April 15, 2016, the Exchange filed Amendment No. 1 to the proposed rule change. ⁴ The Commission

is publishing this notice to solicit comments on Amendment No. 1 from interested persons and is approving the proposed rule change, as modified by Amendment No. 1, on an accelerated basis.

II. Description of the Proposal, as Modified by Amendment No. 1

The Exchange proposes to amend NYSE Rule 98 to provide that when DMMs ⁵ enter interest on a proprietary basis for the purpose of facilitating the execution of customer orders, that interest would not be required to be designated as DMM interest.

A. Background

The Exchange represents that in 2014 it amended NYSE Rule 98 to adopt a principles-based approach to prohibit the misuse of material nonpublic information by a member organization that operates a DMM unit and to make conforming changes to other Exchange rules. ⁶ According to the Exchange, those rule changes provide member organizations operating DMM units with the ability to integrate DMM unit trading with other trading units, while maintaining tailored restrictions to address that DMMs, while on the Trading Floor, ⁷ may have access to certain Floor-based non-public information. The Exchange states that, by removing prescriptive restrictions, the 2014 Filing was designed to enable a member organization that engages in market-making operations on multiple exchanges to house its DMM operations together with the other market-making operations, even if those operations are customer-facing, or to enable a member organization to consolidate all of its equity trading, including customer-facing operations and the DMM unit, within a single independent trading unit.

The Exchange states that NYSE Rule 98(c) sets forth specific restrictions on the operation of a DMM unit. ⁸ Among

other requirements, NYSE Rule 98(c)(4) provides that any interest entered into Exchange systems by the DMM unit in DMM securities ⁹ must be identifiable as DMM unit interest. NYSE Rule 98(c)(5) provides that a member organization must provide the Exchange, at such times and in the manner prescribed by the Exchange, with real-time net position information for trading in DMM securities by the DMM unit and any independent trading unit of which it is a part. NYSE Rule 98(d) further specifies that the DMM rules ¹⁰ will apply only to a DMM unit’s quoting or trading in its DMM securities for its own accounts at the Exchange. Accordingly, the Exchange states, the DMM rules do not apply to any customer orders that a member organization that operates a DMM unit sends to the Exchange as agent. ¹¹

According to the Exchange, because NYSE Rule 98(c)(4) currently requires that any interest entered into Exchange systems by the DMM unit in DMM securities be identifiable as DMM interest, a DMM unit that is integrated with a customer-facing unit and that sends customer orders in DMM securities to the Exchange in a proprietary capacity must identify those customer orders as DMM interest. As a result, although agency orders are not subject to DMM rules, customer-driven interest entered by a DMM unit on a proprietary basis is subject to all DMM rules.

The Exchange states that none of its member organizations operating a DMM have integrated a DMM unit with a customer-facing trading unit. The Exchange believes that the current rule requiring customer-driven orders that are represented on a proprietary basis to be designated as DMM interest has served as a barrier to achieving such integration. ¹² Specifically, according to

²⁵ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(57).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 77332 (Mar. 9, 2016), 81 FR 13851 (“Notice”).

⁴ Amendment No. 1 is publicly available at <http://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-nyse-2016-16/nyse2016-16.shtml>. Amendment No. 1 replaced the original filing in its entirety. In Amendment No. 1, the Exchange proposes: (1) To clarify that a DMM unit must have received a customer order before it enters a “customer-driven order” in DMM securities at the Exchange; (2) to specify that a DMM unit entering a customer-driven order in DMM securities may do so only if the order is entered on a riskless principal basis or if the order is entered on a principal basis to provide price improvement to the customer; and (3) to provide that a mnemonic used to identify a DMM’s customer-driven orders in DMM securities may not be used for trading activity at the Exchange in DMM securities that are not customer-driven order, but may be used for trading activities in securities not assigned to the DMM. Furthermore, the Exchange has also added additional text to the filing to explain the revisions

contained in Amendment No. 1; to clarify the application of Regulation SHO to DMM orders marked as “customer-driven orders,” see *infra* note 15; and to clarify other aspects of the proposed rule change.

⁵ As defined in NYSE Rule 2(i), the term “DMM” means an individual member, officer, partner, employee or associated person of a Designated Market Maker Unit who is approved by the Exchange to act in the capacity of a DMM.

⁶ See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 72534 (July 3, 2014), 79 FR 39019 (July 9, 2014) (Approval Order) and 71837 (Apr. 1, 2014), 79 FR 19146 (Apr. 7, 2014) (SR-NYSE-2014-12) (“2014 Filing”).

⁷ See NYSE Rule 6A for the definition of “Trading Floor.”

⁸ As defined in NYSE Rule 98(b)(1), the term “DMM unit” means a trading unit within a member organization that is approved pursuant to NYSE Rule 103 to act as a DMM unit.

⁹ As defined in NYSE Rule 98(b)(2), the term “DMM securities” means any securities allocated to the DMM unit pursuant to NYSE Rule 103B or other applicable rules.

¹⁰ As defined in NYSE Rule 98(b)(3), the term “DMM rules” means any rules that govern DMM or DMM unit conduct or trading.

¹¹ See 2014 Filing, *supra* note 6 at 19152 (specifying that Rule 98(d) was added because DMM rules are not applicable to any customer orders routed to the Exchange by a member organization as agent).

¹² According to the Exchange, it is a common practice among market makers that operate as wholesalers, and thus have their own customer orders as well as retail order flow from another broker dealer, to facilitate the execution of customer order flow by representing it on a proprietary basis when those orders are routed to an exchange. Once a customer-driven order that has been represented on a proprietary basis on the Exchange has been executed, the market maker uses the position acquired on the Exchange to fill the customer order

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