SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-57083; File No. SR-CBOE-2007-151)

January 2, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change Relating to Linkage Fees

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, 2 notice is hereby given that on December 20, 2007, Chicago Board Options Exchange, Incorporated ("CBOE" or the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been substantially prepared by CBOE. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested parties.

Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed I. Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to amend its Options Intermarket Linkage ("Linkage") fees. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Web site (http://www.cboe.org/legal), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, CBOE 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. CBOE has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

¹⁷ CFR 240.19b-4.

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

1. <u>Purpose</u>

Under the Exchange's current Fees Schedule, Principal ("P") and Principal Acting as Agent ("P/A") orders³ are charged a transaction fee of \$.26 per contract.⁴ Satisfaction orders are not assessed Exchange fees. Linkage fees are operating under a pilot program scheduled to expire on July 31, 2008.

The Exchange proposes to increase its Linkage transaction fee from \$.26 per contract to \$.30 per contract. The proposed fee increase would help the Exchange partially offset its costs of crediting Linkage fees and related costs to Designated Primary Market-Makers ("DPMs") pursuant to the Exchange's DPM Linkage Fees Credit Program. The Exchange believes the proposed fee is reasonable in that it is significantly lower than Linkage fees currently charged by certain exchanges.

Under the Plan for the Purpose of Creating and Operating an Options Intermarket Linkage ("Plan") and Exchange Rule 6.80(12), which tracks the language of the Plan, a "Linkage Order" means an Immediate or Cancel Order routed through the Linkage as permitted under the Plan. There are three types of Linkage Orders: (i) "P/A Order", which is an order for the principal account of a specialist (or equivalent entity an another Participant Exchange that is authorized to represent Public Customer orders), reflecting the terms of a related unexecuted Public Customer order for which the specialist is acting as agent; (ii) "P Order", which is an order for the principal account of an Eligible Market Maker and is not a P/A Order; and (iii) "Satisfaction Order," which is an order sent through the Linkage to notify a member of another Participant Exchange of a Trade-Through and to seek satisfaction of the liability arising from that Trade-Through.

Linkage orders in MNX, NDX and RUT options are also charged a \$.10 per contract surcharge fee. See CBOE Fees Schedule, Footnote 14.

See CBOE Fees Schedule, Section 21.

The Exchange believes NYSEArca, Inc. charges \$.50 per contract on electronically executed Linkage orders and the Boston Options Exchange charges \$.45 per contract or \$.50 per contract for Linkage orders in classes included in its make or take pricing structure.

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁷ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4)⁸ of the Act in particular, in that it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among CBOE members and other persons using its facilities.

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

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

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Within 35 days of the date of publication of this notice in the <u>Federal Register</u> or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission will:

- A) by order approve such proposed rule change or
- B) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

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⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-CBOE-2007-151 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CBOE-2007-151. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CBOE. 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-CBOE-2007-151 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 9

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).