SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-50390; File No. SR-PCX-2004-81)

September 15, 2004

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Pacific Exchange, Inc. Relating to the Exchange's Schedule of Fees and Charges

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4² thereunder, notice is hereby given that on August 23, 2004, the Pacific Exchange, Inc. ("PCX" or "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 prepared by PCX. 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>

PCX proposes to make a clarifying change to the PCX Schedule of Fees and Charges ("Schedule") with respect to the options issue relinquishment request fee. The text of the proposed rule change is available at PCX and at the Commission.

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, PCX 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

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¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

¹⁷ CFR 240.19b-4.

below. PCX has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to make a clarifying change to the Schedule with respect to the options issue relinquishment request fee. Currently, an assigned Lead Market Maker ("LMM") is charged a fee of \$100 for each options issue the LMM requests to be relinquished. The Exchange proposes to clarify this fee by adding a footnote in the Schedule specifying that the fee will not apply in cases of involuntary delisting requests initiated by PCX.

According to the Exchange, the \$100 options issue relinquishment request fee is designed to cover administrative costs associated with voluntary delisting requests initiated by LMMs. The Exchange represents that occasionally an issue relinquishment may result from an action that is initiated by PCX, as opposed to the LMM, due to internal system and/or business considerations. In such cases, the assigned LMM would not be assessed the \$100 fee.

The Exchange also proposes to delete reference to a temporary fee waiver for Market Makers for each additional options trading permit ("OTP") (for which a Market Maker holds a primary appointment) beyond the first OTP held by such Market Maker. This waiver expired on June 30, 2004. Hence, the Exchange proposes to delete this language as obsolete.

2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in particular, because it is designed to promote just and equitable principals of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and to protect investors and the public interest.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the 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>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act⁵ and subparagraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4⁶ thereunder, because the proposed rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

^{6 17} CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. <u>Solicitation of Comments</u>

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-PCX-2004 81 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Jonathan G. Katz, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-PCX-2004-81. 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 (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, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of PCX. 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-PCX-2004-81 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority. 7

Margaret H. McFarland Deputy Secretary

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⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).