

Wednesday, October 27, 2004—1:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting is to hear presentations on current rulemaking activities which would allow for the use of certain manual operator actions to satisfy the requirements of 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix R. The Subcommittee will hear presentations and hold discussions with representatives of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation and other interested persons regarding this matter. The Subcommittee will gather information, analyze relevant issues and facts, and formulate proposed positions and actions, as appropriate, for deliberation by the full Committee.

Members of the public desiring to provide oral statements and/or written comments should notify the Designated Federal Official, Mr. Marvin D. Sykes (telephone 301/415-8716), five days prior to the meeting, if possible, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. Electronic recordings will be permitted.

Further information regarding this meeting can be obtained by contacting the Designated Federal Official between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. (ET). Persons planning to attend this meeting are urged to contact the above named individual at least two working days prior to the meeting to be advised of any potential changes to the agenda.

Dated: October 12, 2004.

John H. Flack,

Acting Branch Chief, ACRS/ACNW.

[FR Doc. 04-23391 Filed 10-18-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Sunshine Act Meeting

DATES: Weeks of October 18, 25, November 1, 8, 15, 22, 2004.

PLACE: Commissioner's Conference Room, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland.

STATUS: Public and closed.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Week of October 18, 2004

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of October 18, 2004.

Week of October 25, 2004—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of October 25, 2004.

Week of November 1, 2004—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of November 1, 2004.

Week of November 8, 2004—Tentative

Monday, November 8, 2004

9 a.m.—Briefing on Plant Aging and Material Degradation—Part One (Public Meeting) (Contact: Steve Koenick, 301-415-1239)

1:30 p.m.—Briefing on Plant Aging and Material Degradation Issues—Part Two (Public Meeting) (Contact: Steve Koenick, 301-415-1239)

This meeting (both parts) will be webcast live at the Web address— <http://www.nrc.gov>.

Tuesday, November 9, 2004

9:30 a.m.—Briefing on Reactor Safety and Licensing Activities (Public Meeting) (Contact: Steve Koenick, 301-415-1239)

This meeting will be webcast live at the Web address—<http://www.nrc.gov>.

Week of November 15, 2004—Tentative

Tuesday, November 16, 2004

9:30 a.m.—Briefing on Threat Environment Assessment (Closed—Ex. 1)

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

9:30 a.m.—Discussion of Security Issues (Closed—Ex. 1)

Week of November 22, 2004—Tentative

There are no meetings scheduled for the Week of November 22, 2004.

The schedule for Commission meetings is subject to change on short notice. To verify the status of meetings call (recording)—(301) 415-1292. Contact person for more information: Dave Gamberoni, (301) 415-1651.

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The NRC Commission Meeting Schedule can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.nrc.gov/what-we-do/policy-making/schedule.html>.

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The NRC provides reasonable accommodation to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in these public meetings, or need this meeting notice or the transcript or other information from the public meetings in another format (e.g. braille, large print), please notify the NRC's Disability Program Coordinator, August Spector, at 301-415-7080, TDD: 301-415-2100, or by e-mail at aks@nrc.gov. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

* * * * *

This notice is distributed by mail to several hundred subscribers; if you no longer wish to receive it, or would like to be added to the distribution, please

contact the Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20555 (301-415-1969). In addition, distribution of this meeting notice over the Internet system is available. If you are interested in receiving this Commission meeting schedule electronically, please send an electronic message to dkw@nrc.gov.

Dated: October 14, 2004.

Dave Gamberoni,

Office of the Secretary.

[FR Doc. 04-23425 Filed 10-15-04; 10:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-50520; File No. SR-BSE-2004-49]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change by the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to an Extension of the Specialist Performance Evaluation Program Pilot

October 13, 2004.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 6, 2004, the Boston Stock Exchange, Inc. ("BSE" 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 Exchange filed the proposal pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change.

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

The BSE proposes to extend its Specialist Performance Evaluation Program until December 31, 2004. Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is *italicized*; proposed deletions are in [brackets].

* * * * *

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Chapter XV—Specialists

Specialist Performance Evaluation Program

SEC. 17

(a)—(e) No change

(f) This program will expire on [September 30] *December 31, 2004*, unless further action is taken by the Exchange.

* * * * *

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

In its filing with the Commission, the BSE 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. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange seeks to extend its Specialist Performance Evaluation Program ("SPEP") pilot, until December 31, 2004.

The Exchange states that, pursuant to the SPEP pilot program, it regularly evaluates the performance of its specialists by using objective measures, such as turnaround time, price improvement, depth, and added depth. Generally, any specialist who receives a deficient score in one or more measures may be required to attend a meeting with the Performance Improvement Action Committee, or the Market Performance Committee.

While the Exchange believes that the SPEP program has been a very successful and effective tool for measuring specialist performance, it also believes that modifications are necessary as a result of recent changes in the industry, particularly decimalization. The Exchange has filed a proposal with the Commission to amend its rules with respect to the SPEP program.⁵ Accordingly, the Exchange is seeking to extend the pilot period of this program while its proposal to amend the SPEP program is pending with the Commission.

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 50287 (August 27, 2004), 69 FR 53966 (September 3, 2004) (SR-BSE-2004-25).

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act⁶ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5)⁷ in particular, 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 is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, brokers, or dealers, or to regulate by virtue of any authority matters not related to the administration of the Exchange.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition.

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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder⁹ because the proposal: (i) Does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest; provided that the Exchange has given the Commission notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such 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

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

The BSE has requested that the Commission waive the five-day pre-filing notice and the 30-day operative delay.¹⁰ The Commission believes that waiving the 30-day operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because it will allow the pilot program to continue with minimal interruption and will permit the Commission to continue to evaluate the proposed changes to the pilot program.¹¹ In addition, the Commission has determined to waive the five-day pre-filing notice. For these reasons, the Commission designates the proposal to be effective and operative upon filing with the Commission.¹²

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 (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-BSE-2004-49 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-BSE-2004-49. 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

¹⁰ Exhibit 1 of SR-BSE-2004-49 contained certain discrepancies with Item 7 of SR-BSE-2004-49 with regard to the filing's date of effectiveness, which discrepancies have been conformed in this notice by Commission staff. Telephone conversation between John Boese, Vice President, Chief Regulatory Officer, BSE, and David Liu, Attorney, Division of Market Regulation, Commission, on October 8, 2004.

¹¹ See note 5 *supra*.

¹² For purposes only of accelerating the operative date of this proposal, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

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 the BSE. 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-BSE-2004-49 and should be submitted on or before November 9, 2004.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. E4-2714 Filed 10-18-04; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-50521; File No. SR-CHX-2004-32]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change by the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to Membership Dues and Fees Applicable to Orders Sent for Execution Through the Exchange's CHXpress Functionality

October 13, 2004.

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 September 28, 2004, the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc. ("CHX" 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 the CHX. The proposed rule change has been filed by the CHX as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge, pursuant to

Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)⁴ thereunder, which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The CHX proposes to amend its membership dues and fees schedule, to establish fees for orders sent for execution through its CHXpresstm functionality. Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is in *italics*.

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES

A.-E. No change to text.

F. Transaction and Order Processing Fees

* * * * *

4. Transaction Fees

a.-k. No change to text.

1. CHXpress orders \$.0005 per share, if sent by an order-sending firm. CHXpress orders sent to the Exchange by an order-sending firm are not subject to any other order processing fees, transaction fees, fee caps or fee reductions set forth above in Sections F(3) and F(4).

CHXpress orders entered by a CHX market maker or by a CHX floor broker on behalf of a customer shall be exempt from any CHXpress transaction fee but shall remain subject to transaction fees that are applicable to market maker or floor broker executions.

* * * * *

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

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

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange is developing a new automated functionality for handling particular orders, called CHXpress. The CHXpress functionality, built into the Exchange's MAX[®] system, is designed to provide additional opportunities for the Exchange's members and their customers to seek and receive liquidity through automated executions of orders at the Exchange.⁵

Through this submission, the Exchange proposes to establish a transaction fee that would apply to executions of CHXpress orders. Specifically, CHXpress orders sent by the Exchange's off-floor order-sending firms through the Exchange's MAX system would be assessed a fee of \$.0005 per share. CHXpress orders entered by a CHX market maker, or by CHX floor broker on behalf of a customer, would not be assessed a specific CHXpress order transaction fee, but would remain subject to the existing transaction fees (and fee reductions and caps) that are currently applicable to market maker and floor broker executions.⁶ The CHXpress transaction fee would apply to eligible orders sent through the CHXpress functionality when it is rolled out later this year.

3. Statutory Basis

The CHX believes that its proposal to amend its schedule of dues, fees, and charges is consistent with Section 6(b)

⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 34-50481 (September 30, 2004); 69 FR 60197 (October 7, 2004) (approval of File No. SR-CHX-2004-12) and 34-49567 (April 15, 2004); 69 FR 21591 (April 21, 2004) (notice of File No. SR-CHX-2004-12).

⁶ Agency executions through a floor broker currently are \$.0035 per share (for executions in "dual trading system" issues) and \$.0025 per share (for executions in Nasdaq/NM securities), up to a maximum of \$100 per side and subject to certain fee reductions and caps. Executions by market makers currently are set at \$.0050 per share (up to a maximum of \$100 per side) and also are subject to certain fee reductions and caps. According to the CHX, these fees charged to market makers are set at these higher per share rates for a variety of reasons, including the need to help defray the costs associated with the Exchange's regulatory activities with respect to its market makers and the costs associated with any license fees that the Exchange pays in connection with the trading of certain products. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-49357 (March 3, 2004), 69 FR 11681 (March 11, 2004) (regarding the market maker transaction fees). Moreover, although specialists pay a fixed fee associated with the trading of their assigned issues, floor brokers do not currently do so; according to the Exchange, transaction fees assessed on floor broker executions help to cover the Exchange's costs of providing regulatory and technology services to its floor broker community.

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).