SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-57464; File No. SR-CHX-2008-02)

March 11, 2008

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change to Amend its Bylaws Relating to the Definition of a Public Director

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on February 26, 2008, 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 substantially prepared by the CHX. 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</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The CHX proposes to amend the definition of "public director," as set forth in the CHX's bylaws. The text of this proposed rule change is available at the CHX, on the Exchange's Web site at <a href="http://www.chx.com/rules/proposed\_rules.htm">http://www.chx.com/rules/proposed\_rules.htm</a>, and in the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

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.

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

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

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

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

The Exchange's bylaws currently define a public director as, among other things, a director (i) who is not a broker or dealer or an officer or employee of a broker or dealer; and (ii) who does not have any other material business relationship with a broker or dealer.<sup>3</sup>

Through this proposal, the Exchange seeks to amend the definition of "public director" to clarify its scope. Description of the Exchange proposes to amend the definition of a public director to only exclude persons who have the specified relationships with a broker or dealer that is registered under the Act. The Exchange believes that this change is appropriate because it would ensure that a public director is not affiliated with a U.S. broker or dealer (which must register under the Act), while allowing a public director to have a business relationship with a non-U.S. broker or dealer (which typically is not required to register under the Act). The Exchange believes that this change is consistent with the director independence qualifications used by at least one other self-regulatory organization.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The CHX believes the proposal is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6(b).<sup>6</sup> The proposed rule change is consistent with

See Article II, Section 2(b) of the Exchange's Bylaws.

In this proposal, the Exchange also seeks to insert the word "a" in the rule text to correct an apparent typographical error.

See Section 1(c) of the Independence Qualifications section of the Independence Policy of the NYSE Euronext Board of Directors.

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

Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>7</sup> because it would promote just and equitable principles of trade, remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, protect investors and the public interest by modifying the definition of a public director in a manner that continues to ensure the independence of a public director, while allowing a public director to have business relationships with non-U.S. entities.

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

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

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 either solicited or received.

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 Federal Register 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 Exchange 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.

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

## 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-CHX-2008-02 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-CHX-2008-02. 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 inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of the filing 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-CHX-2008-02 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.  $^8$ 

Florence E. Harmon Deputy Secretary

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).