SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-59844; File No. SR-NYSE-2009-31)

April 29, 2009

Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Order Approving Proposed Rule Change Regarding Initial and Annual Listing Fees for Securities Listed and Traded on the NYSE Bonds System

I. <u>Introduction</u>

On March 16, 2009, the New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE" or "Exchange") 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 regarding initial and annual listing fees for securities listed pursuant to Section 102.03 of the NYSE Listed Company Manual ("Manual") and traded on the NYSE Bonds system. The proposal was published in the <u>Federal Register</u> on March 26, 2009.³ The Commission received no comments on the proposal. This order approves the proposed rule change.

II. Background

Currently, Rule 902.08 of the Manual imposes a one-time listing fee of \$15,000 for bonds and other fixed income debt securities that list on the Exchange pursuant to Section 102.03. The Exchange has proposed to amend Rule 902.08 to eliminate the one-time listing fee and replace it with an initial listing fee of \$5,000 and an annual listing fee of \$5,000. The proposal also would clarify that <u>non-listed</u> debt of NYSE equity issuers and affiliated companies⁴ would continue to

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59608 (March 19, 2009), 74 FR 13278 (March 26, 2009) ("Notice").

 <u>See NYSE Rules 1400 and 1401. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 54767</u> (November 16, 2006), 71 FR 67680 (November 22, 2006) (SR-NYSE-2004-69) (permitting Exchange trading of debt securities that are not registered under the Act, but

be eligible to trade on NYSE Bonds without a fee. However, new language to Rule 902.08 clarifies that NYSE equity issuers and affiliated companies that determine to list debt securities on the Exchange would be subject to the \$5,000 initial and annual listing fees. The proposal further clarifies that only <u>domestic</u> debt of issuers exempt from registration under the Act is not subject to a listing fee.

III. Discussion

After careful review, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to a national securities exchange.⁵ In particular, the Commission finds that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,⁶ which requires that an exchange have rules that provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its members and other persons using its facilities. The Commission notes that the Exchange's proposed fee of \$5,000 for both initial and annual listing is consistent with a similar fee for Equity-Linked Debt Securities traded on NYSE Bonds, which the Commission previously approved,⁷ and that no commenters objected to the proposal. The Commission also believes that the proposed clarifications to Rule 902.08 of the Manual are reasonable and consistent with the Act.

IV. Conclusion

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁸ that the

are issued by NYSE-listed companies or their wholly-owned subsidiaries and that meet other conditions).

⁵ In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. <u>See</u> 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

⁷ <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59559 (March 11, 2009), 74 FR 11391 (March 17, 2009) (SR-NYSE-2009-03).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

proposed rule change (SR-NYSE-2009-31) be, and it hereby is, approved.

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

Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary

⁹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).