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OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response.......38

Page 1 of	* 22	WASHING	EXCHANGE COMMI STON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4		File No.* S	SR - 2019 - * 004 mendments *)
Filing by Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section .	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
1 1101	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f) 19b-4(f) 19b-4(f))(2) 19b-4(f)(5)	
	proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlement Ac	t of 2010	Security-Based Swap to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2	
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). The Exchange proposes to extend the pilot program related to BYX Rule 11.18, Trading Halts Due to Extraordinary Market Volatility, to the close of business on October 18, 2019.						
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.						
First Name * Adrian		Last Name * Griffiths				
Title *	Title * Assistant General Counsel E-mail * agriffiths@cboe.com					
E-mail *						
Telephone * (646) 856-8723 Fax						
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.						
(Title *) Nate 04/12/2019 Assistant General Counsel						
-	4/12/2019		Assistant General Co	ounser		
Ву А	drian Griffiths					
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.						

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Add Remove View Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add View Remove the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy Partial Amendment proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial

amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. ("BYX" or the "Exchange") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") a proposed rule change to extend the pilot program related to BYX Rule 11.18, Trading Halts Due to Extraordinary Market Volatility, to the close of business on October 18, 2019. The Exchange has designated this proposal as non-controversial pursuant to Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act.³

The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at http://markets.cboe.com/, at the Exchange's principal office and at the Public Reference Room of the Commission.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

- (a) The Exchange's President (or designee) pursuant to delegated authority approved the proposed rule change on April 11, 2019.
- (b) Please refer questions and comments on the proposed rule change to Patrick Sexton, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, (312) 786-7462, or Adrian Griffiths, Assistant General Counsel, (646) 856-8723.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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

(a) <u>Purpose</u>

BYX Rules 11.18(a) through (d), (f) and (g) describe the methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility, i.e., market-wide circuit breakers. The market-wide circuit breaker mechanism was approved by the Commission to operate on a pilot basis, the term of which is to coincide with the pilot period for the Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility Pursuant to Rule 608 of Regulation NMS (the "LULD Plan" or "Plan"),⁴ including any extensions to the pilot period for the Plan. The Commission published an amendment to the LULD Plan for it to operate on a permanent, rather than pilot, basis on December 18, 2018, ⁵ and the Commission approved that amendment on April 11, 2019.⁶

Market-wide circuit breakers provide an important, automatic mechanism that is invoked to promote stability and investor confidence during a period of significant stress when securities markets experience extreme broad-based declines. All U.S. equities exchanges have similar rules related to market-wide circuit breakers, which are designed to slow the effects of extreme price movement through coordinated trading halts across securities markets when severe price declines reach levels that may exhaust market liquidity. Market-wide circuit breakers provide for trading halts in all equities markets

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67091 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33498 (June 6, 2012) (the "Limit Up-Limit Down Release").

^{5 &}lt;u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 84843 (December 18, 2018), 83 FR 66464 (December 26, 2018) (Amendment No. 18 Proposing Release).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 85623 (April 11, 2018) (federal register publication pending) (Amendment No. 18 Approval Order).

during a severe market decline as measured by a single-day decline in the S&P 500 Index.

Pursuant to BYX Rule 11.18, a market-wide trading halt will be triggered if the S&P 500 Index declines in price by specified percentages from the prior day's closing price of that index. Currently, the triggers are set at three circuit breaker thresholds: 7% (Level 1), 13% (Level 2) and 20% (Level 3). A market decline that triggers a Level 1 or Level 2 circuit breaker after 9:30 a.m. ET and before 3:25 p.m. ET would halt market-wide trading for 15 minutes, while a similar market decline at or after 3:25 p.m. ET would not halt market-wide trading. A market decline that triggers a Level 3 circuit breaker, at any time during the trading day, would halt market-wide trading for the remainder of the trading day. The Exchange proposes to amend BYX Rule 11.18 to untie the market-wide circuit breaker pilot program's effectiveness from that of the LULD Plan and to extend the pilot's effectiveness to the close of business on October 18, 2019.

In addition, the Exchange proposes to amend BYX Rule 11.18 such that the pilot only applies to the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (d), (f) and (g) of BYX Rule 11.18 – i.e., the provisions related to the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism, and not paragraph (e), which discusses provisions implementing the LULD Plan. The Exchange is required by the LULD Plan to establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to comply with the limit up-limit down and trading pause requirements specified in the Plan. BYX Rule 11.18(e) states that the Exchange is a Participant in the LULD Plan, and requires that members comply with the provisions of the Plan. Furthermore, BYX Rule 11.18(e) describes order handling

Paragraph (e) of BYX Rule 11.18, which is being made permanent, is subject to a pilot coterminous with the LULD Plan today.

performed by the Exchange to maintain compliance with the LULD Plan. Specifically, the rule: (1) provides that the System shall not display or execute buy (sell) interest above (below) the Upper (Lower) Price Bands, unless such interest is specifically exempted under the Plan; and (2) describes how the System re-prices and/or cancels buy (sell) interest that is priced or could be executed above (below) the Upper (Lower) Price Band. With the approval of the LULD Plan to operate on a permanent basis, the Exchange believes that the provisions of BYX Rule 11.18(e) should similarly be permanent, thus ensuring continued compliance with the Plan.

The Exchange intends to file a separate proposed rule change with the Commission to operate the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (d), (f) and (g) of BYX Rule 11.18 on a permanent, rather than pilot, basis. Extending the effectiveness of such provisions to the close of business on October 18, 2019 should provide the Commission adequate time to consider whether to approve the Exchange's separate proposal to operate the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism on a permanent basis.

(b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act, 8 in general, and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, 9 in particular, in that it is designed to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest and not to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b)(5).

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change promotes just and equitable principles of trade in that it promotes transparency and uniformity across markets concerning when and how to halt trading in all stocks as a result of extraordinary market volatility. The Exchange believes that extending the market-wide circuit breaker pilot program for an additional six months would ensure the continued, uninterrupted operation of a consistent mechanism to halt trading across the U.S. markets while the Commission considers whether to approve the pilot program on a permanent basis. The proposed rule change would thus promote fair and orderly markets and the protection of investors and the public interest. Based on the foregoing, the Exchange believes the benefits to market participants from the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism should continue on a pilot basis while the Commission considers whether to permanently approve those rules.

The Exchange also believes that it is consistent with the public interest and the protection of investors to make permanent the order handling provisions of BYX Rule 11.18. Today, like the market-wide circuit breaker rules, those rules are operated under a pilot that coincides with the pilot period for the LULD Plan. Unlike the market-wide circuit breaker rules, however, these rules directly implement the requirements of the LULD Plan, including by implementing order handling that is consistent with the requirements of the Plan. As such, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate to make these rules permanent now that the Plan is no longer operating on a pilot basis. Making these rules permanent would ensure continued compliance by the Exchange and its members with the requirements of the LULD Plan as the Plan transitions to permanent status.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change implicates any competitive issues because the proposal would ensure the continued, uninterrupted operation of a consistent mechanism to halt trading across the U.S. markets while the Commission considers whether to permanently approve the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism under BYX Rule 11.18. The Exchange believes that FINRA and other national securities exchange will also file similar proposals to extend their respective market-wide circuit breaker pilot programs with the Commission so that the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism may continue uninterrupted while the Commission considers whether to approve its operation on a permanent basis. Furthermore, the proposed rule change would ensure continued compliance with the requirements of the LULD Plan as it becomes permanent, which the Exchange believes would not have a significant impact on competition.

- Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others
 No comments were solicited or received on the proposed rule change.
- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
 Not applicable.

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated</u> Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)¹⁰ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹¹ thereunder. The proposed rule change effects a change that (A) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (B) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (C) by its terms, does not become operative for thirty (30) days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.¹²

The market-wide circuit breaker mechanism under BYX Rule 11.18 is an important, automatic mechanisms that is invoked to promote stability and investor confidence during a period of significant stress when securities markets experience extreme broad-based declines. This proposed rule change would not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because it seeks to extend the protections provided by this pilot program without any changes while the Commission considers whether to approve the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism under BYX Rule 11.18 on a permanent basis. This proposed rule change would also not impose any significant burden on competition because the Exchange believes FINRA and other national securities exchanges will also file similar proposals with the Commission to extend their respective market-wide circuit breaker pilot programs so that the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism may continue uninterrupted while the Commission considers whether

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

to approve its operation on a permanent basis. Similarly, the Exchange believes that it is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, and would not impose any significant burden on competition, to make the provisions of BYX Rule 11.18(e) permanent. This change would ensure continued compliance with the requirements of the LULD Plan as it becomes permanent, without changing any of the substantive order handling or other requirements of that paragraph. Accordingly, the Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹³ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁴

The Exchange respectfully requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposed rule change may become effective and operative upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁵ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. Waiver of the 30-day operative delay would allow the Exchange to continue the market-wide circuit breaker pilot program through October 18, 2019, while making the Exchange's LULD Plan order handling rules permanent at the same time the Plan becomes permanent. Waiver of the operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because such action would ensure continued compliance with the Plan, and extend the protections provided by the market-wide circuit breaker pilot program without any changes while the Commission considers whether to approve the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism under BYX Rule 11.18 on a permanent basis. The rules have been in place for a

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

substantial amount of time without change. Thus, continuing the rules in their current form will not have any meaningful impact on member or investors that would necessitate a delay in effectiveness.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive this five day period so that the filing can become immediately effective now that the Commission has approved the amendment to the LULD Plan, thereby ensuring that the market structure and compliance benefits provided by these rules continue uninterrupted as the LULD Plan becomes permanent.

At any time within sixty (60) days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily temporarily suspend 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.

8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization</u> or of the Commission

The proposed rule change is not based on the rules of another self-regulatory organization, or of the Commission.

- Security Based-Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act
 Not applicable.
- 10. <u>Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act</u>

Not applicable.

11. <u>Exhibits</u>

Exhibit 1 – Form of Notice of Proposed Rule Change for <u>Federal Register</u>.

Exhibit 5 – Text of the Proposed Rule Change

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-CboeBYX-2019-004]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Pilot Program Related to BYX Rule 11.18, Trading Halts Due to Extraordinary Market Volatility, to the Close of Business on October 18, 2019.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, ² notice is hereby given that on [insert date], Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BYX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "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 as a "non-controversial" proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. ⁴ 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>

Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. ("BYX" or the "Exchange") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") a proposed rule change to extend the pilot program related to BYX Rule 11.18, Trading Halts Due to Extraordinary

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Market Volatility, to the close of business on October 18, 2019. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/byx/), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

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

1. Purpose

BYX Rules 11.18(a) through (d), (f) and (g) describe the methodology for determining when to halt trading in all stocks due to extraordinary market volatility, i.e., market-wide circuit breakers. The market-wide circuit breaker mechanism was approved by the Commission to operate on a pilot basis, the term of which is to coincide with the pilot period for the Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility Pursuant to Rule 608 of Regulation NMS (the "LULD Plan" or "Plan"),⁵ including any extensions to the pilot period for the Plan. The Commission published an amendment to the LULD Plan for it to

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67091 (May 31, 2012), 77 FR 33498 (June 6, 2012) (the "Limit Up-Limit Down Release").

operate on a permanent, rather than pilot, basis on December 18, 2018, ⁶ and the Commission approved that amendment on April 11, 2019.⁷

Market-wide circuit breakers provide an important, automatic mechanism that is invoked to promote stability and investor confidence during a period of significant stress when securities markets experience extreme broad-based declines. All U.S. equities exchanges have similar rules related to market-wide circuit breakers, which are designed to slow the effects of extreme price movement through coordinated trading halts across securities markets when severe price declines reach levels that may exhaust market liquidity. Market-wide circuit breakers provide for trading halts in all equities markets during a severe market decline as measured by a single-day decline in the S&P 500 Index.

Pursuant to BYX Rule 11.18, a market-wide trading halt will be triggered if the S&P 500 Index declines in price by specified percentages from the prior day's closing price of that index. Currently, the triggers are set at three circuit breaker thresholds: 7% (Level 1), 13% (Level 2) and 20% (Level 3). A market decline that triggers a Level 1 or Level 2 circuit breaker after 9:30 a.m. ET and before 3:25 p.m. ET would halt market-wide trading for 15 minutes, while a similar market decline at or after 3:25 p.m. ET would not halt market-wide trading. A market decline that triggers a Level 3 circuit breaker, at any time during the trading day, would halt market-wide trading for the remainder of the trading day. The Exchange proposes to amend BYX Rule 11.18 to untie

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 84843 (December 18, 2018), 83 FR 66464 (December 26, 2018) (Amendment No. 18 Proposing Release).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 85623 (April 11, 2018) (federal register publication pending) (Amendment No. 18 Approval Order).

the market-wide circuit breaker pilot program's effectiveness from that of the LULD Plan and to extend the pilot's effectiveness to the close of business on October 18, 2019.

In addition, the Exchange proposes to amend BYX Rule 11.18 such that the pilot only applies to the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (d), (f) and (g) of BYX Rule 11.18 – i.e., the provisions related to the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism, and not paragraph (e), which discusses provisions implementing the LULD Plan. 8 The Exchange is required by the LULD Plan to establish, maintain, and enforce written policies and procedures that are reasonably designed to comply with the limit up-limit down and trading pause requirements specified in the Plan. BYX Rule 11.18(e) states that the Exchange is a Participant in the LULD Plan, and requires that members comply with the provisions of the Plan. Furthermore, BYX Rule 11.18(e) describes order handling performed by the Exchange to maintain compliance with the LULD Plan. Specifically, the rule: (1) provides that the System shall not display or execute buy (sell) interest above (below) the Upper (Lower) Price Bands, unless such interest is specifically exempted under the Plan; and (2) describes how the System re-prices and/or cancels buy (sell) interest that is priced or could be executed above (below) the Upper (Lower) Price Band. With the approval of the LULD Plan to operate on a permanent basis, the Exchange believes that the provisions of BYX Rule 11.18(e) should similarly be permanent, thus ensuring continued compliance with the Plan.

The Exchange intends to file a separate proposed rule change with the Commission to operate the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (d), (f) and (g) of BYX Rule 11.18 on a permanent, rather than pilot, basis. Extending the effectiveness of such

Paragraph (e) of BYX Rule 11.18, which is being made permanent, is subject to a pilot coterminous with the LULD Plan today.

provisions to the close of business on October 18, 2019 should provide the Commission adequate time to consider whether to approve the Exchange's separate proposal to operate the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism on a permanent basis.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act, 9 in general, and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, 10 in particular, in that it is designed to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest and not to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change promotes just and equitable principles of trade in that it promotes transparency and uniformity across markets concerning when and how to halt trading in all stocks as a result of extraordinary market volatility. The Exchange believes that extending the market-wide circuit breaker pilot program for an additional six months would ensure the continued, uninterrupted operation of a consistent mechanism to halt trading across the U.S. markets while the Commission considers whether to approve the pilot program on a permanent basis. The proposed rule change would thus promote fair and orderly markets and the protection of investors and the public interest. Based on the foregoing, the Exchange believes the benefits to market participants from the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism should

⁹ 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. § 78f(b)(5).

continue on a pilot basis while the Commission considers whether to permanently approve those rules.

The Exchange also believes that it is consistent with the public interest and the protection of investors to make permanent the order handling provisions of BYX Rule 11.18. Today, like the market-wide circuit breaker rules, those rules are operated under a pilot that coincides with the pilot period for the LULD Plan. Unlike the market-wide circuit breaker rules, however, these rules directly implement the requirements of the LULD Plan, including by implementing order handling that is consistent with the requirements of the Plan. As such, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate to make these rules permanent now that the Plan is no longer operating on a pilot basis. Making these rules permanent would ensure continued compliance by the Exchange and its members with the requirements of the LULD Plan as the Plan transitions to permanent status.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change implicates any competitive issues because the proposal would ensure the continued, uninterrupted operation of a consistent mechanism to halt trading across the U.S. markets while the Commission considers whether to permanently approve the market-wide circuit breaker mechanism under BYX Rule 11.18. The Exchange believes that FINRA and other national securities exchange will also file similar proposals to extend their respective market-wide circuit breaker pilot programs with the Commission so that the market-wide

circuit breaker mechanism may continue uninterrupted while the Commission considers whether to approve its operation on a permanent basis. Furthermore, the proposed rule change would ensure continued compliance with the requirements of the LULD Plan as it becomes permanent, which the Exchange believes would not have a significant impact on competition.

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

No comments were solicited or received on the proposed rule change.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not:

- A. significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest;
- B. impose any significant burden on competition; and
- C. become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹¹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹² thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend 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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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-CboeBYX-2019-004 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CboeBYX-2019-004. 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 website (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 website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m.

and 3:00 p.m. 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-CboeBYX-2019-004 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. ¹³

Secretary

¹³

EXHIBIT 5

Proposed new language is <u>underlined</u>; proposed deletions are in [brackets].

Rules of Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.

* * *

Rule 11.18 Trading Halts Due to Extraordinary Market Volatility

The provisions of paragraphs (a) through (d), (f) and (g) of this [This] Rule shall be in effect during a pilot period [to coincide with the pilot period for the Regulation NMS Plan to Address Extraordinary Market Volatility] that expires at the close of business on October 18, 2019. If the pilot is not either extended or approved permanently at the end of the pilot period, the prior version of paragraphs (a) through (d), (f) and (g) [Rule 11.18] shall be in effect.

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