Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of * 30		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2013 - * 36 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)						
Filing by EDGX 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) *
Pilot		nsion of Time Period ommission Action *	Date Expires *			19b-4(f) 19b-4(f))(1)	
Notice of proposed change pursuant Section 806(e)(1)			section 806(e)(2)	ng, and Settlen	nent Act	of 2010	Security-Based Swa to the Securities Exc Section 3C(b)(-
Exhibit 2	Sent As	_ ·	ixhibit 3 Sent As Paper Do	ocument				
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). EDGX Exchange, Inc. proposes to: (i) amend Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting; (ii) amend Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials; and (iii) adopt new Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions.								
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 N	ame *	Christopher		Last Name *	Solgan			
Title *		Regulatory Counsel						
E-mail	E-mail * csolgan@directedge.com							
Teleph	one *	(201) 942-8321	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 *)								
Date 09/26/2013 Regulatory Counsel								
By		opher Solgan						
(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) **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, 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 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. Remove View Add 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 Remove View 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 View Remove 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. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("EDGX" or the "Exchange") proposes to: (i) amend Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting; (ii) amend Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials; and (iii) adopt new Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions, to conform with the rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") for purposes of an agreement between the Exchange and FINRA pursuant to Rule 17d-2 under the Act.³

The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5 and is available on the Exchange's website at www.directedge.com, at the Exchange's principal office and at the Public Reference Room of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). The Exchange has designated this proposal as non-controversial and provided the Commission with the notice required by Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act.⁴

- (b) The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would have any direct or significant indirect effect on any other Exchange rule in effect at the time of this filing.
 - (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The Exchange submits the proposed rule change pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange on April 27, 2010. Exchange staff will advise the Exchange's Board of Directors of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change and, therefore, the Exchange's internal procedures with respect to the proposed change are complete.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.17d-2.

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

The persons on the Exchange staff prepared to respond to questions and comments on the proposed rule change are:

Thomas N. McManus Chief Regulatory Officer EDGX Exchange, Inc. 201-418-3471 Christopher Solgan Regulatory Counsel EDGX Exchange, Inc. 201-942-8321

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

(a) <u>Purpose</u>

Pursuant to Rule 17d-2 under the Act,⁵ the Exchange and FINRA entered into an agreement to allocate regulatory responsibility for common rules (the "17d-2 Agreement"). The 17d-2 Agreement covers common members of the Exchange and FINRA and allocates to FINRA regulatory responsibility, with respect to common members, for the following: (i) examination of common members of the Exchange and FINRA for compliance with federal securities laws, rules and regulations and rules of the Exchange that the Exchange has certified as identical or substantially similar to FINRA rules; (ii) investigation of common members of EDGX and FINRA for violations of federal securities laws, rules or regulations, or Exchange rules that the Exchange has certified as identical or substantially identical to a FINRA rule; and (iii) enforcement of compliance by common members with the federal securities laws, rules and regulations, and the rules of the Exchange that the Exchange has certified as identical or substantially similar to FINRA rules.⁶

The 17d-2 Agreement included a certification by the Exchange that states that the requirements contained in certain Exchange rules are identical to, or substantially similar to, certain FINRA rules that have been identified as comparable. To conform with comparable FINRA rules for purposes of the 17d-2 Agreement, the Exchange proposes to: (i) amend Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting; (ii) amend Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials; and (iii) adopt new Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions.

Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting and Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials

The Exchange proposes to amend Rules 3.22 and 13.3 concerning proxy voting and forwarding of proxy materials to align these rules with FINRA Rule 2251. Section

⁵ 17 CFR 240.17d-2.

See Securities and Exchange Release No. 61698 (March 12, 2010), 75 FR 13151 (March 18, 2010) (approving File No. 10-196).

Similarly, on September 30, 2011, BATS Y-Exchange, Inc. ("BYX") amended their Rule 13.3 to align it with FINRA Rule 2251. See Securities Exchange Act

957 of the Dodd-Frank Act amended Section 6(b) of the Act⁸ to require the rules of each national securities exchange prohibit any member organization that is not the beneficial owner of a security registered under Section 12 of the Act⁹ from granting a proxy to vote the security in connection with certain stockholder votes, unless the beneficial owner of the security has instructed the member organization to vote the proxy in accordance with the voting instructions of the beneficial owner. The stockholder votes covered by Section 957 include any vote with respect to: (i) the election of a member of the board of directors of an issuer (other than an uncontested election of a director of an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act); (ii) executive compensation; or (iii) any other significant matter, as determined by the Commission, by rule. The Exchange carries out the requirements of Section 957 of the Dodd-Frank Act under paragraph (a) to Exchange Rule 3.22 which prohibits a Member from giving a proxy to vote stock that is registered in its name, unless: (i) such Member is the beneficial owner of such stock; (ii) such proxy is given pursuant to the written instructions of the beneficial owner; or (iii) such proxy is given pursuant to the rules of any national securities exchange or association of which it is a member provided that the records of the Member clearly indicate the procedure it is following.

Similarly, the Exchange proposes to add new paragraph (c) to Rule 3.22, based entirely on FINRA Rule 2251(d), to explicitly state that a Member may give a proxy to vote any stock registered in its name if such Member holds such stock as executor, administrator, guardian, trustee, or in a similar representative or fiduciary capacity with authority to vote. Proposed paragraph (c) would also state that a Member that has in its possession or within its control stock registered in the name of another Member and that desires to transmit signed proxies pursuant to the provisions of Rule 13.3, shall obtain the requisite number of signed proxies from such holder of record. Lastly, proposed paragraph (c) would also state that, notwithstanding the foregoing: (1) any Member designated by a named Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (as amended) ("ERISA") Plan fiduciary as the investment manager of stock held as assets of the ERISA Plan may vote the proxies in accordance with the ERISA Plan fiduciary responsibilities if the ERISA Plan expressly grants discretion to the investment manager to manage, acquire, or dispose of any plan asset and has not expressly reserved the proxy voting right for the named ERISA Plan fiduciary; and (2) any designated investment adviser may vote such proxies.

Release No. 65448 (September 30, 2011), 76 FR 62103 (October 6, 2011) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change to Amend BYX Rule 13.3 to Prohibit Members from Voting Uninstructed Shares on Certain Matters and to Align BYX Rule 13.3, Concerning the Forwarding of Proxy and Other Material and Proxy Voting, with FINRA Rule 2251).

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 781.

To promote consistency with FINRA Rule 2251, the Exchange proposes to add language to the existing text of Rule 13.3 to state that for beneficial owners, the proxy materials or other materials to be forwarded on behalf of an issuer can be sent to the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser, if applicable. In conjunction with this change, the Exchange proposes to adopt the definition of "designated investment adviser" set forth in FINRA Rule 2251(f) as Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 3.22.

The Exchange also proposes modifying the text of Rule 13.3, which currently would require forwarding of proxy material but which does not explicitly reference such material, to add such an explicit reference. The Exchange further proposes to modify the text of Rule 13.3 to reference "security holders," rather than stockholders, in the initial sentence, to ensure that the coverage of the rule applies to all securities, including debt securities to the extent applicable, and not just equity securities. The Exchange also proposes to incorporate certain language from FINRA Rule 2251 that provides additional detail regarding the material that must be provided to beneficial owners in the event of a proxy solicitation. Specifically, Rule 13.3 as amended would state that in the event of a proxy solicitation, materials provided pursuant to the Rule shall include a signed proxy indicating the number of shares held for such beneficial owner and bearing a symbol identifying the proxy with proxy records maintained by the Member, and a letter informing the beneficial owner (or the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser) of the time limit and necessity for completing the proxy form and forwarding it to the person soliciting proxies prior to the expiration of the time limit in order for the shares to be represented at the meeting. The Rule would also require a Member to furnish a copy of the symbols to the person soliciting the proxies and shall also retain a copy thereof pursuant to the provisions of Exchange Act Rule 17a-4. Finally, the Exchange proposes to modify the title of Rule 13.3 to include a reference to proxy voting.

The Exchange believes that these changes will help to avoid confusion among Members of the Exchange that are also members of FINRA by further aligning the Exchange's rules with FINRA Rule 2251. The proposed changes to Rules 3.22 and 13.3 are designed to enable the Exchange to incorporate Rules 3.22 and 13.3 into the 17d-2 Agreement, further reducing duplicative regulation of Members that are also members of FINRA.

Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions

The Exchange proposes to adopt new Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions, which would require that Members and persons associated with a Member shall comply with FINRA Rule 5270 as if such Rule were part of the Exchange's Rules. The proposed rule text is substantially the same as IM-2110-3 of the Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq"), which has been approved by the Commission. FINRA Rule

 <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53128 (January 13, 2006), 71 FR 3550 (January 23, 2006) (order approving Nasdaq's application for registration as a national securities exchange). <u>See also</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58069 (June 30, 2008), 73 FR 39360 (July 9, 2008) (SR-Nasdaq-2008-054)

5270 states that no FINRA member or person associated with a member shall cause to be executed an order to buy or sell a security or a related financial instrument¹¹ when such member or person associated with a member has material, non-public market information concerning an imminent block transaction¹² in that security, a related financial instrument or a security underlying the related financial instrument.

FINRA Rule 5270 includes exceptions to the general prohibitions of the rule where a member can demonstrate that a transaction is unrelated to the material, non-public market information received in connection with the customer order. The Supplementary Material to FINRA Rule 5270 includes an illustrative list of potentially permitted transactions as examples of transactions that, depending upon the circumstances, may be unrelated to the customer block order. These types of transactions may include: where the member has information barriers established to prevent internal disclosure of such information; actions in the same security related to a prior customer order in that security; transactions to correct bona fide errors; or transactions to offset odd-lot orders.

In addition, Rule 5270 does not preclude transactions undertaken for the purpose of fulfilling, or facilitating the execution of, the customer block order. However, when engaging in trading activity that could affect the market for the security that is the subject of the customer block order, the member must minimize any potential disadvantage or harm in the execution of the customer's order, must not place the member's financial interests ahead of those of its customer, and must obtain the customer's consent to such trading activity. A member may obtain its customers' consent through affirmative written consent or through the use of a negative consent letter. The negative consent

(Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness). Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-67774 (September 4, 2012), 77 FR 55519 (September 12, 2012) (Approval Order).

- FINRA Rule 5270 defines the term "related financial instrument" as "any option, derivative, security-based swap, or other financial instrument overlying a security, the value of which is materially related to, or otherwise acts as a substitute for, such security, as well as any contract that is the functional economic equivalent of a position in such security."
- Under FINRA Rule 5270, a transaction involving 10,000 shares or more of a security, an underlying security, or a related financial instrument overlying such number of shares, is generally deemed to be a block transaction, although a transaction of fewer than 10,000 shares could be considered a block transaction. A block transaction that has been agreed upon does not lose its identity as such by arranging for partial executions of the full transaction in portions which themselves are not of block size if the execution of the full transaction may have a material impact on the market.

letter must clearly disclose to the customer the terms and conditions for handling the customer's orders; if the customer does not object, then the member may reasonably conclude that the customer has consented and the member may rely on such letter for all or a portion of the customer's orders. In addition, a member may provide clear and comprehensive oral disclosure to and obtain consent from the customer on an order-by-order basis, provided that the member documents who provided such consent and such consent evidences the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions for handling the customer's order.

The Exchange also proposes to state in new Rule 12.14 that although the prohibitions in Rule 5270 are limited to imminent block transactions, the front running of other types of orders that place the financial interests of the Member or persons associated with a Member ahead of those of its customer or the misuse of knowledge of an imminent customer order may violate other Exchange rules, including Rule 3.1 and Rule 12.6, or provisions of the federal securities laws.

(b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, ¹³ which requires, among other things, that the Exchange's rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will further these requirements by eliminating duplicative and unnecessary rules and advancing the development of a more efficient and effective Exchange Rulebook. The proposed rule change would provide greater harmonization between Exchange and FINRA rules of similar purpose, resulting in greater uniformity and less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance. As such, the proposed rule change would foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities and would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system.

Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting and Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials

The Exchange believes that proposed amendments to Rules 3.22 and 13.3 are consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, ¹⁴ because they remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system by providing for consistent regulation for Members of the Exchange that are members of

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹⁴ Id.

other SROs with analogous rules.¹⁵ The proposed changes to Rules 3.22 and 13.3 and proposed Interpretation and Policy .01 are consistent with FINRA Rule 2251. Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposal fosters cooperation because, to the extent the Exchange is able to incorporate Rule 13.3 into the 17d-2 Agreement as a rule in common between the Exchange and FINRA, then FINRA will conduct a review for compliance with the common rule to the extent a Member of the Exchange is also a member of FINRA, and the Exchange will not conduct a duplicative review of the same activity by that Member. Finally, the Exchange believes that the proposal will contribute to investor protection by defining important requirements to which Members must abide with respect to proxy solicitation, proxy voting and delivery of proxy materials.

Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions

The Exchange believes that new Rule 12.14 is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹⁶ which requires, among other things, that the Exchange rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. By incorporating FINRA Rule 5270, new Rule 12.14 prohibits front running trading activity that the Exchange believes is inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade while also ensuring that Members may continue to engage in transactions that do not present the risk of abusive trading practices that the rule is intended to prevent. The Exchange believes that Rule 12.14 would enhance the protection of customer orders by addressing various types of abusive trading that may be intended to take advantage of customer orders. As previously noted, the proposed rule text is substantially similar to Nasdaq's IM-2110-3, which has been approved by the Commission. 17 By adopting Rule 12.14, the Exchange believes that imminent customer block orders would be better protected and that the proposed rule change will prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, and better protect investors and the public interest.

See, e.g., FINRA Rule 2251, BYX Rule 13.3, ISE Rule 421, NYSE Arca Rule 9.4, and Nasdaq Rule 2251.

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53128 (January 13, 2006), 71 FR 3550 (January 23, 2006) (order approving Nasdaq's application for registration as a national securities exchange). See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58069 (June 30, 2008), 73 FR 39360 (July 9, 2008) (SR-Nasdaq-2008-054) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness). Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-67774 (September 4, 2012), 77 FR 55519 (September 12, 2012) (Approval Order).

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 proposed rule change is not designed to address any competitive issues but rather is designed to provide greater harmonization among Exchange and FINRA rules of similar purpose, resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance for common members and facilitating FINRA's performance of its regulatory functions under the 17d-2 Agreement.

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

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

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)¹⁸ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹⁹ 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 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; provided that the self-regulatory organization has given the Commission written 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. The Exchange provided the Commission with written 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.²⁰

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

²⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change meets the criteria of subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4²¹ because the proposed rule change would not adversely affect investors or the public interest; rather, the proposed rule change will promote greater harmonization between the Exchange and FINRA rules of similar purpose, resulting in greater uniformity and less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance. Additionally, the proposed rule change does not raise any new policy issues not previously considered by the Commission nor impose any significant burden on competition because it would result in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance for common members and facilitating FINRA's performance of its regulatory functions under the 17d-2 Agreement. Accordingly, the Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act²² and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.²³

The Exchange further requests that the Commission waive the thirty (30) day operative delay to allow for an operative date effective upon filing. Waiver of the operative delay would allow the Exchange to promptly incorporate Rules 3.22, 12.4 and 13.3 into the 17d-2 Agreement, further reducing duplicative regulation of Members that are also members of FINRA. In addition, waiving the 30-day operative delay would provide greater harmonization among Exchange and FINRA rules, resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance for common members and facilitating FINRA's performance of its regulatory functions under the 17d-2 Agreement in a timelier manner.

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 or of the Commission</u>

The proposed amendments to Exchange Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting, and Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials, are based on BYX Rule 13.3 and FINRA Rule 2251.

The proposed adoption of Exchange Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions, is based on Nasdaq IM-2110-3 and FINRA Rule 5270.

²¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

²² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

²³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

- 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. Exhibits

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

Exhibit 5 – Text of the Proposed Rule Change.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-EDGX-2013-36)

[Date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; EDGX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend EDGX Rules 3.2, 13.3, and Adopt Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions to Conform with the Rules of other Self-Regulatory Organizations

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, notice is hereby given that on _______, EDGX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "EDGX") 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 self-regulatory organization. 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>

The Exchange proposes to: (i) amend Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting; (ii) amend Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials; and (iii) adopt new Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions, to conform with the rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") for purposes of an agreement between the Exchange and FINRA pursuant to Rule 17d-2 under the Act.³ All of the changes described herein are

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.17d-2.

applicable to EDGX Members. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Internet website at www.directedge.com, at the Exchange's principal office, and at the Public Reference Room of 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, the self-regulatory organization 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 self-regulatory organization 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 the Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. Purpose

Pursuant to Rule 17d-2 under the Act,⁴ the Exchange and FINRA entered into an agreement to allocate regulatory responsibility for common rules (the "17d-2 Agreement"). The 17d-2 Agreement covers common members of the Exchange and FINRA and allocates to FINRA regulatory responsibility, with respect to common members, for the following: (i) examination of common members of the Exchange and FINRA for compliance with federal securities laws, rules and regulations and rules of the Exchange that the Exchange has certified as identical or substantially similar to FINRA rules; (ii) investigation of common members of EDGX and FINRA for violations of

⁴ 17 CFR 240.17d-2.

federal securities laws, rules or regulations, or Exchange rules that the Exchange has certified as identical or substantially identical to a FINRA rule; and (iii) enforcement of compliance by common members with the federal securities laws, rules and regulations, and the rules of the Exchange that the Exchange has certified as identical or substantially similar to FINRA rules.⁵

The 17d-2 Agreement included a certification by the Exchange that states that the requirements contained in certain Exchange rules are identical to, or substantially similar to, certain FINRA rules that have been identified as comparable. To conform with comparable FINRA rules for purposes of the 17d-2 Agreement, the Exchange proposes to: (i) amend Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting; (ii) amend Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials; and (iii) adopt new Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions.

Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting and Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials

The Exchange proposes to amend Rules 3.22 and 13.3 concerning proxy voting and forwarding of proxy materials to align these rules with FINRA Rule 2251.⁶ Section 957 of the Dodd-Frank Act amended Section 6(b) of the Act⁷ to require the rules of each national securities exchange prohibit any member organization that is not the beneficial

See Securities and Exchange Release No. 61698 (March 12, 2010), 75 FR 13151 (March 18, 2010) (approving File No. 10-196).

Similarly, on September 30, 2011, BATS Y-Exchange, Inc. ("BYX") amended their Rule 13.3 to align it with FINRA Rule 2251. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 65448 (September 30, 2011), 76 FR 62103 (October 6, 2011) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change to Amend BYX Rule 13.3 to Prohibit Members from Voting Uninstructed Shares on Certain Matters and to Align BYX Rule 13.3, Concerning the Forwarding of Proxy and Other Material and Proxy Voting, with FINRA Rule 2251).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

owner of a security registered under Section 12 of the Act⁸ from granting a proxy to vote the security in connection with certain stockholder votes, unless the beneficial owner of the security has instructed the member organization to vote the proxy in accordance with the voting instructions of the beneficial owner. The stockholder votes covered by Section 957 include any vote with respect to: (i) the election of a member of the board of directors of an issuer (other than an uncontested election of a director of an investment company registered under the Investment Company Act); (ii) executive compensation; or (iii) any other significant matter, as determined by the Commission, by rule. The Exchange carries out the requirements of Section 957 of the Dodd-Frank Act under paragraph (a) to Exchange Rule 3.22 which prohibits a Member from giving a proxy to vote stock that is registered in its name, unless: (i) such Member is the beneficial owner of such stock; (ii) such proxy is given pursuant to the written instructions of the beneficial owner; or (iii) such proxy is given pursuant to the rules of any national securities exchange or association of which it is a member provided that the records of the Member clearly indicate the procedure it is following.

Similarly, the Exchange proposes to add new paragraph (c) to Rule 3.22, based entirely on FINRA Rule 2251(d), to explicitly state that a Member may give a proxy to vote any stock registered in its name if such Member holds such stock as executor, administrator, guardian, trustee, or in a similar representative or fiduciary capacity with authority to vote. Proposed paragraph (c) would also state that a Member that has in its possession or within its control stock registered in the name of another Member and that desires to transmit signed proxies pursuant to the provisions of Rule 13.3, shall obtain the

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requisite number of signed proxies from such holder of record. Lastly, proposed paragraph (c) would also state that, notwithstanding the foregoing: (1) any Member designated by a named Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (as amended) ("ERISA") Plan fiduciary as the investment manager of stock held as assets of the ERISA Plan may vote the proxies in accordance with the ERISA Plan fiduciary responsibilities if the ERISA Plan expressly grants discretion to the investment manager to manage, acquire, or dispose of any plan asset and has not expressly reserved the proxy voting right for the named ERISA Plan fiduciary; and (2) any designated investment adviser may vote such proxies.

To promote consistency with FINRA Rule 2251, the Exchange proposes to add language to the existing text of Rule 13.3 to state that for beneficial owners, the proxy materials or other materials to be forwarded on behalf of an issuer can be sent to the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser, if applicable. In conjunction with this change, the Exchange proposes to adopt the definition of "designated investment adviser" set forth in FINRA Rule 2251(f) as Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 3.22.

The Exchange also proposes modifying the text of Rule 13.3, which currently would require forwarding of proxy material but which does not explicitly reference such material, to add such an explicit reference. The Exchange further proposes to modify the text of Rule 13.3 to reference "security holders," rather than stockholders, in the initial sentence, to ensure that the coverage of the rule applies to all securities, including debt securities to the extent applicable, and not just equity securities. The Exchange also proposes to incorporate certain language from FINRA Rule 2251 that provides additional detail regarding the material that must be provided to beneficial owners in the event of a

proxy solicitation. Specifically, Rule 13.3 as amended would state that in the event of a proxy solicitation, materials provided pursuant to the Rule shall include a signed proxy indicating the number of shares held for such beneficial owner and bearing a symbol identifying the proxy with proxy records maintained by the Member, and a letter informing the beneficial owner (or the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser) of the time limit and necessity for completing the proxy form and forwarding it to the person soliciting proxies prior to the expiration of the time limit in order for the shares to be represented at the meeting. The Rule would also require a Member to furnish a copy of the symbols to the person soliciting the proxies and shall also retain a copy thereof pursuant to the provisions of Exchange Act Rule 17a-4. Finally, the Exchange proposes to modify the title of Rule 13.3 to include a reference to proxy voting.

The Exchange believes that these changes will help to avoid confusion among Members of the Exchange that are also members of FINRA by further aligning the Exchange's rules with FINRA Rule 2251. The proposed changes to Rules 3.22 and 13.3 are designed to enable the Exchange to incorporate Rules 3.22 and 13.3 into the 17d-2 Agreement, further reducing duplicative regulation of Members that are also members of FINRA.

Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions

The Exchange proposes to adopt new Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block
Transactions, which would require that Members and persons associated with a Member
shall comply with FINRA Rule 5270 as if such Rule were part of the Exchange's Rules.
The proposed rule text is substantially the same as IM-2110-3 of the Nasdaq Stock

Market LLC ("Nasdaq"), which has been approved by the Commission. FINRA Rule 5270 states that no FINRA member or person associated with a member shall cause to be executed an order to buy or sell a security or a related financial instrument when such member or person associated with a member has material, non-public market information concerning an imminent block transaction in that security, a related financial instrument or a security underlying the related financial instrument.

FINRA Rule 5270 includes exceptions to the general prohibitions of the rule where a member can demonstrate that a transaction is unrelated to the material, non-public market information received in connection with the customer order. The Supplementary Material to FINRA Rule 5270 includes an illustrative list of potentially permitted transactions as examples of transactions that, depending upon the

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53128 (January 13, 2006), 71 FR 3550 (January 23, 2006) (order approving Nasdaq's application for registration as a national securities exchange). See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58069 (June 30, 2008), 73 FR 39360 (July 9, 2008) (SR-Nasdaq-2008-054) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness). Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-67774 (September 4, 2012), 77 FR 55519 (September 12, 2012) (Approval Order).

FINRA Rule 5270 defines the term "related financial instrument" as "any option, derivative, security-based swap, or other financial instrument overlying a security, the value of which is materially related to, or otherwise acts as a substitute for, such security, as well as any contract that is the functional economic equivalent of a position in such security."

Under FINRA Rule 5270, a transaction involving 10,000 shares or more of a security, an underlying security, or a related financial instrument overlying such number of shares, is generally deemed to be a block transaction, although a transaction of fewer than 10,000 shares could be considered a block transaction. A block transaction that has been agreed upon does not lose its identity as such by arranging for partial executions of the full transaction in portions which themselves are not of block size if the execution of the full transaction may have a material impact on the market.

circumstances, may be unrelated to the customer block order. These types of transactions may include: where the member has information barriers established to prevent internal disclosure of such information; actions in the same security related to a prior customer order in that security; transactions to correct bona fide errors; or transactions to offset odd-lot orders.

In addition, Rule 5270 does not preclude transactions undertaken for the purpose of fulfilling, or facilitating the execution of, the customer block order. However, when engaging in trading activity that could affect the market for the security that is the subject of the customer block order, the member must minimize any potential disadvantage or harm in the execution of the customer's order, must not place the member's financial interests ahead of those of its customer, and must obtain the customer's consent to such trading activity. A member may obtain its customers' consent through affirmative written consent or through the use of a negative consent letter. The negative consent letter must clearly disclose to the customer the terms and conditions for handling the customer's orders; if the customer does not object, then the member may reasonably conclude that the customer has consented and the member may rely on such letter for all or a portion of the customer's orders. In addition, a member may provide clear and comprehensive oral disclosure to and obtain consent from the customer on an order-byorder basis, provided that the member documents who provided such consent and such consent evidences the customer's understanding of the terms and conditions for handling the customer's order.

The Exchange also proposes to state in new Rule 12.14 that although the prohibitions in Rule 5270 are limited to imminent block transactions, the front running of

other types of orders that place the financial interests of the Member or persons associated with a Member ahead of those of its customer or the misuse of knowledge of an imminent customer order may violate other Exchange rules, including Rule 3.1 and Rule 12.6, or provisions of the federal securities laws.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, 12 which requires, among other things, that the Exchange's rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will further these requirements by eliminating duplicative and unnecessary rules and advancing the development of a more efficient and effective Exchange Rulebook. The proposed rule change would provide greater harmonization between Exchange and FINRA rules of similar purpose, resulting in greater uniformity and less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance. As such, the proposed rule change would foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities and would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system.

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Rule 3.22, Proxy Voting and Rule 13.3, Forwarding of Issuer Materials

The Exchange believes that proposed amendments to Rules 3.22 and 13.3 are consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, ¹³ because they remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system by providing for consistent regulation for Members of the Exchange that are members of other SROs with analogous rules. ¹⁴ The proposed changes to Rules 3.22 and 13.3 and proposed Interpretation and Policy .01 are consistent with FINRA Rule 2251.

Accordingly, the Exchange believes that the proposal fosters cooperation because, to the extent the Exchange is able to incorporate Rule 13.3 into the 17d-2 Agreement as a rule in common between the Exchange and FINRA, then FINRA will conduct a review for compliance with the common rule to the extent a Member of the Exchange is also a member of FINRA, and the Exchange will not conduct a duplicative review of the same activity by that Member. Finally, the Exchange believes that the proposal will contribute to investor protection by defining important requirements to which Members must abide with respect to proxy solicitation, proxy voting and delivery of proxy materials.

Rule 12.14, Front Running of Block Transactions

The Exchange believes that new Rule 12.14 is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act¹⁵ which requires, among other things, that the Exchange rules be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable

¹³ Id.

See, e.g., FINRA Rule 2251, BYX Rule 13.3, ISE Rule 421, NYSE Arca Rule 9.4, and Nasdaq Rule 2251.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. By incorporating FINRA Rule 5270, new Rule 12.14 prohibits front running trading activity that the Exchange believes is inconsistent with just and equitable principles of trade while also ensuring that Members may continue to engage in transactions that do not present the risk of abusive trading practices that the rule is intended to prevent. The Exchange believes that Rule 12.14 would enhance the protection of customer orders by addressing various types of abusive trading that may be intended to take advantage of customer orders. As previously noted, the proposed rule text is substantially similar to Nasdaq's IM-2110-3, which has been approved by the Commission. By adopting Rule 12.14, the Exchange believes that imminent customer block orders would be better protected and that the proposed rule change will prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, promote just and equitable principles of trade, and better protect investors and the public interest.

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 proposed rule change is not designed to address any competitive issues but rather is designed to provide greater harmonization among Exchange and FINRA rules of similar purpose, resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 53128 (January 13, 2006), 71 FR 3550 (January 23, 2006) (order approving Nasdaq's application for registration as a national securities exchange). See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 58069 (June 30, 2008), 73 FR 39360 (July 9, 2008) (SR-Nasdaq-2008-054) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness). Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-67774 (September 4, 2012), 77 FR 55519 (September 12, 2012) (Approval Order).

compliance for common members and facilitating FINRA's performance of its regulatory functions under the 17d-2 Agreement.

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

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

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)¹⁷ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹⁸ 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 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; provided that the self-regulatory organization has given the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange provided the Commission with written 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. ¹⁹

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change meets the criteria of subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4²⁰ because the proposed rule change would not adversely affect investors or the public interest; rather, the proposed rule change will promote greater harmonization between the Exchange and FINRA rules of similar purpose, resulting in greater uniformity and less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance. Additionally, the proposed rule change does not raise any new policy issues not previously considered by the Commission nor impose any significant burden on competition because it would result in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance for common members and facilitating FINRA's performance of its regulatory functions under the 17d-2 Agreement. Accordingly, the Exchange has designated this rule filing as non-controversial under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act²¹ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.²²

The Exchange further requests that the Commission waive the thirty (30) day operative delay to allow for an operative date effective upon filing. Waiver of the operative delay would allow the Exchange to promptly incorporate Rules 3.22, 12.4 and 13.3 into the 17d-2 Agreement, further reducing duplicative regulation of Members that are also members of FINRA. In addition, waiving the 30-day operative delay would provide greater harmonization among Exchange and FINRA rules, resulting in less burdensome and more efficient regulatory compliance for common members and

²⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

²¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

²² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

facilitating FINRA's performance of its regulatory functions under the 17d-2 Agreement in a timelier manner.

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.

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 <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-EDGX-2013-36 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-EDGX-2013-36. 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

SR-EDGX-2013-36

Page 27 of 30

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, DC 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-EDGX-2013-36 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.²³

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

23

EXHIBIT 5

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

Rules of EDGX Exchange, Inc.

CHAPTER III. RULES OF FAIR PRACTICE

Rules 3.1 - 3.21. (No change).

Rule 3.22. Proxy Voting

- (a) No Member shall give a proxy to vote stock that is registered in its name, unless: (i) such Member is the beneficial owner of such stock; (ii) pursuant to the written instructions of the beneficial owner; or (iii) pursuant to the rules of any national securities exchange or association of which it is a member provided that the records of the Member clearly indicate the procedure it is following.
- (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Member that is not the beneficial owner of a security registered under Section 12 of the Exchange Act is prohibited from granting a proxy to vote the security in connection with a shareholder vote on the election of a member of the board of directors of an issuer (except for a vote with respect to uncontested election of a member of the board of directors of any investment company registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940), executive compensation, or any other significant matter, as determined by the SEC, by rule, unless the beneficial owner of the security has instructed the Member to vote the proxy in accordance with the voting instructions of the beneficial owner.
- (c) Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Member may give a proxy to vote any stock registered in its name if such Member holds such stock as executor, administrator, guardian, trustee, or in a similar representative or fiduciary capacity with authority to vote. A Member that has in its possession or within its control stock registered in the name of another Member and that desires to transmit signed proxies pursuant to the provisions of Rule 13.3, shall obtain the requisite number of signed proxies from such holder of record. Notwithstanding the foregoing: (1) any Member designated by a named Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (as amended) ("ERISA") Plan fiduciary as the investment manager of stock held as assets of the ERISA Plan may vote the proxies in accordance with the ERISA Plan fiduciary responsibilities if the ERISA Plan expressly grants discretion to the investment manager to manage, acquire, or dispose of any plan asset and has not expressly reserved the proxy voting right for the named ERISA Plan fiduciary; and (2) any designated investment adviser may vote such proxies.

Interpretations and Policies

.01 For purposes of this Rule, the term "designated investment adviser" is a person registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, or registered as an investment adviser under the laws of a state, who exercises investment discretion pursuant to an advisory contract for the beneficial

owner and is designated in writing by the beneficial owner to receive proxy and related materials and vote the proxy, and to receive annual reports and other material sent to security holders.

- (a) For purposes of this Rule, the term "state" shall have the meaning given to such term in Section 202(a)(19) of the Investment Advisers Act (as the same may be amended from time to time).
- (b) The written designation must be signed by the beneficial owner; be addressed to the Member; and include the name of the designated investment adviser.
- (c) Members that receive such a written designation from a beneficial owner must ensure that the designated investment adviser is registered with the SEC pursuant to the Investment Advisers Act, or with a state as an investment adviser under the laws of such state, and that the investment adviser is exercising investment discretion over the customer's account pursuant to an advisory contract to vote proxies and/or to receive proxy soliciting material, annual reports and other material. Members must keep records substantiating this information.
- (d) Beneficial owners have an unqualified right at any time to rescind designation of the investment adviser to receive materials and to vote proxies. The rescission must be in writing and submitted to the Member.

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CHAPTER XII. TRADING PRACTICE RULES

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Rule 12.14. Front Running of Block Transactions

- (a) Members and persons associated with a Member shall comply with FINRA Rule 5270 as if such Rule were part of the Exchange's rules.
- (b) Front Running of Non-Block Transactions. Although the prohibitions in FINRA Rule 5270 are limited to imminent block transactions, the front running of other types of orders that place the financial interests of the Member or persons associated with a Member ahead of those of its customer or the misuse of knowledge of an imminent customer order may violate other Exchange rules, including Rule 3.1 and Rule 12.6, or provisions of the federal securities laws.

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CHAPTER XIII. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

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Rule 13.3. Forwarding of Proxy and Other Issuer-Related Materials

A Member when so requested by an issuer and upon being furnished with: (1) sufficient copies of proxy materials, annual reports, information statements or other material required by law to be sent to [stockholders] security holders periodically, and (2) satisfactory assurance that it will be reimbursed by such issuer for all out-of-pocket expenses, including reasonable clerical expenses, shall transmit promptly to each beneficial owner of securities (or the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser as defined in Interpretation and Policy .01 to Rule 3.22) of such issuer which are in its possession and control and registered in a name other than the name of the beneficial owner all such material furnished. <u>In the event of a proxy solicitation, such material</u> shall include a signed proxy indicating the number of shares held for such beneficial owner and bearing a symbol identifying the proxy with proxy records maintained by the Member, and a letter informing the beneficial owner (or the beneficial owner's designated investment adviser) of the time limit and necessity for completing the proxy form and forwarding it to the person soliciting proxies prior to the expiration of the time limit in order for the shares to be represented at the meeting. A Member shall furnish a copy of the symbols to the person soliciting the proxies and shall also retain a copy thereof pursuant to the provisions of Exchange Act Rule 17a-4. This paragraph shall not apply to beneficial owners residing outside of the United States of America though Members may voluntarily comply with the provisions hereof in respect of such persons if they so desire.

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