#### Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

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

| Page 1 of  | f * 23                     |                                |  | EXCHANGE (<br>STON, D.C. 2<br>orm 19b-4 |             |          | File No.*  | * SR - 2016 - * 04<br>Amendments *) |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|-------------|----------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Filing b   | y Bats BZX                 | Exchange, Inc                  | -  |   |             |          |  |                                     |
| Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934   |                            |                                |  |   |             |          |  |                                     |
| Initial * ✓  | Amei                       | ndment *                       | Withdrawal                               | Section 19(t                            | o)(2) *     | Section  | on 19(b)(3)(A) *   | Section 19(b)(3)(B) *               |
| Pilot  |                            | f Time Period<br>sion Action * | Date Expires *                           | 19b-4(f)(2) [ 19b-4(f)(3) [             |             |          | )(2)   |                                     |
| Notice of proposed change pursuant  Section 806(e)(1) *  |                            |                                | o the Payment, Clear Section 806(e)(2) * | ing, and Settler                        | ment Act of | f 2010   | Security-Based Swa<br>to the Securities Exc<br>Section 3C(b)(3 | -                                   |
| 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 rule changes related to fees as they apply to the Equity Options Platform. |                            |                                |  |   |             |          |  |                                     |
| 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 Na   | ame * Anders               | <b>.</b>                       |  | Last Name *                             | Franzon     |          |  |                                     |
| Title *  |                            |                                |  |   |             |          |  |                                     |
| E-mail   | E-mail * afranzon@bats.com |                                |  |   |             |          |  |                                     |
| Telepho  |                            | 15-7154                        | -ax                                      |   |             |          |  |                                     |
| 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   | 03/31/2016                 |                                |  | SVP, Associa                            | te Genera   | I Counse | ıl   |                                     |
| Ву   | Anders Fran                | zon                            |  |   |             |          |  |                                     |
| (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. 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 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 Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> Bats BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BZX") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change to adopt a fee schedule which would be applicable to Members and non-Members of the Exchange pursuant to Exchange Rules 15.1(a) and (c). The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5. Material proposed to be added is underlined. Material proposed to be deleted is enclosed in brackets.
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Not applicable.

# 2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange on February 11, 2014. Exchange staff will advise the Board of Directors of the Exchange of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

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

Eric Swanson EVP, General Counsel (913) 815-7000 Anders Franzon SVP, Associate General Counsel (913) 815-7154

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

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

A Member is defined as "any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange." See Exchange Rule 1.5(n).

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

### (a) <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend its fee schedule ("Fee Schedule") for its equity options platform ("BZX Options") to add the definitions of "Appointed MM" and "Appointed OEF", effective April 1, 2016, which would increase opportunities for firms to qualify for tiered pricing on BZX Options. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to allow a Market Maker to designate an Order Entry Firm ("OEF") as its "Appointed OEF" and for an OEF to designate a Market Maker as its "Appointed MM," for purposes of the Fee Schedule. Members of BZX Options would effectuate such designation by completing and sending an executed Volume Aggregation and Execution Detail Request form by email to the Exchange. As specified in the proposed Fee Schedule, the Exchange would view the transmittal of the completed form as acceptance of such an appointment. The proposed new concepts would be applicable to all tiered pricing offered by the Exchange, and are designed to increase opportunities for firms to qualify for such tiers.

See proposed language for "Designating an Appointed OEF/Appointed MM" under "Definitions" section of the Fee Schedule. Members should direct their executed forms to <a href="mailto:membershipservices@bats.com">membershipservices@bats.com</a>.

The Exchange further notes that, as proposed, the Exchange would only recognize one such designation for each party once every 12 months, which designation would remain in effect unless or until the Exchange receives written notice from either party indicating that the appointment has been terminated. Id.

The Exchange currently offers tiers as described in the footnotes section of the Fee Schedule. Under the current tiers, Members that achieve certain volume criteria may qualify for reduced fees or enhanced rebates for various executions, including executions of Customer<sup>6</sup> and Market Maker<sup>7</sup> orders. In connection with such tiers, the Exchange calculates on a monthly basis a Member's ADV<sup>8</sup> and/or ADAV<sup>9</sup> in the applicable category (e.g., Customer orders or Market Maker orders), as a percentage of average TCV.<sup>10</sup> The Exchange also offers various incentives focused on growth that compare a Member's ADAV as compared to a baseline ADAV established in a prior period (i.e., the Exchange's "step-up" pricing). Upon reaching a volume threshold that qualifies a Member for a specified tier, a Member receives the enhanced rebate or reduced fee associated with the highest tier achieved for each eligible contract executed on the Exchange. Under the Exchange's current Fee Schedule, a Member is permitted to aggregate volume with other Members that control, are controlled by, or are under common control with such Member. Thus, Members that act as OEFs with affiliated

The term "Customer" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Customer range at the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"), excluding any transaction for a Broker Dealer or a "Professional" as defined in Exchange Rule 16.1.

The term "Market Maker" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Market Maker range at the OCC, where such Member is registered with the Exchange as a Market Maker as defined in Rule 16.1(a)(37).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "ADV" means average daily volume calculated as the number of contracts added or removed, combined, per day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "ADAV" means average daily added volume calculated as the number of contracts per day.

<sup>&</sup>quot;TCV" means total consolidated volume calculated as the volume reported by all exchanges to the consolidated transaction reporting plan for the month for which the fees apply, excluding volume on any day that the Exchange experiences an Exchange System Disruption and on any day with a scheduled early market close.

broker-dealers that are Market Makers on the Exchange, and vice-versa, may be able to qualify for certain pricing incentives offered by the Exchange based on such affiliation and aggregation.

The proposal would be available to all Market Makers and OEFs. Specifically, the proposed changes would enable any Market Maker to qualify an Appointed OEF for purposes of volume-based tiers on the Exchange. In this regard, the proposed change would enable a Market Maker without an affiliated OEF – or with an affiliated OEF that doesn't meet the volume requirements for tiered pricing – to enter into a relationship with an Appointed OEF. Similarly, as proposed, an OEF, by virtue of designating an Appointed MM, would be able to aggregate its own Customer volume with the activity of its Appointed MM, which would enhance the OEF's potential to qualify for tiered pricing. <sup>11</sup>

Thus, the proposed changes would enable firms that may not currently be eligible for tiered pricing incentives to avail themselves of such incentives as well as to assist firms that are currently eligible for such incentives to potentially achieve a higher tier, thus qualifying for higher rebates or reduced fees. The Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize firms to direct their order flow to the Exchange to the benefit of all market participants. Further, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes would encourage Market Maker firms to increase their participation on the Exchange,

An OEF that has both an Appointed MM and an affiliated Market Maker may only aggregate volumes with one of these two, not both. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to specify in the definitions section that that "[w]ith prior notice to the Exchange, a Member may aggregate ADAV or ADV with other Members that control, are controlled by, or are under common control with such Member *or* who have been appointed as an Appointed OEF or Appointed OEF." See proposed Fee Schedule, "Definitions", emphasis added.

which would increase capital commitment and liquidity on the Exchange to the benefit of all market participants.

As proposed, the Exchange would only process one designation of an Appointed OEF and Appointed MM per year, which designation would remain in effect unless or until the parties informed the Exchange of its termination. <sup>12</sup> The Exchange believes that this requirement would impose a measure of exclusivity and would enable both parties to rely upon each other's transaction volumes executed on the Exchange, and potentially increase such volumes, which is beneficial to all Exchange participants.

#### (b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6 of the Act. <sup>13</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act, <sup>14</sup> in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls.

The Exchange believes that its proposed fees and rebates are reasonable, fair and equitable, and non-discriminatory for the following reasons. First, the proposal would be available to all Market Makers and OEFs and the decision to be designated as an "Appointed OEF" or "Appointed MM" is completely voluntary and Members may elect

See supra, note 5.

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

to accept this appointment or not. In addition, the proposed changes would enable firms that are not currently eligible for tiered pricing to avail themselves such pricing as well as to assist firms that are currently eligible for such tiers to potentially achieve a higher tier, thus qualifying for higher rebates or lower fees. The Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize firms to direct their order flow to the Exchange. Specifically, the proposed changes would enable any Market Maker to qualify its Appointed OEF for purposes of tiered pricing. Moreover, the proposed change would allow any OEF, by virtue of designating an Appointed MM, to aggregate its own volume, including Customer volume, with the activity of its Appointed MM, which would enhance the OEF's potential to qualify for enhanced rebates or reduced fees. The Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize Appointed OEFs with an Appointed MM to direct their order flow to the Exchange, which increase in orders routed to the Exchange would benefit all market participants by expanding liquidity and providing more trading opportunities on the Exchange. Similarly, the Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize Appointed MMs with an Appointed OEF to increase their participation on the Exchange, which would increase capital commitment and liquidity and decrease spreads on the Exchange to the benefit of all market participants. The Exchange believes that, similar to volume based tiers offered by the Exchange, the benefits of the proposal extend to all market participants based on the increased quality of liquidity on the Exchange, including those market participants that opt not to become an Appointed OEF or Appointed MM.

Further, the Exchange believes that the proposal is reasonable and equitably allocated because it is beneficial to all Exchange participants based on the fact that it

enables parties to rely upon each other's transaction volumes executed on the Exchange, and potentially increase such volumes. In turn, as above, the potential increase in order flow, capital commitment and resulting liquidity on the Exchange would benefit all market participants by expanding liquidity, providing more trading opportunities and tighter spreads. The proposal is also reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange would only process one designation of an Appointed OEF and Appointed MM per year, which requirement would impose a measure of exclusivity while allowing both parties to rely upon each other's transaction volumes executed on the Exchange, and potentially increase such volumes, again, to the benefit of all market participants. Finally, the Exchange believes the proposal is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory as it may encourage an increase in orders routed to the Exchange, which would expand liquidity and provide more trading opportunities and tighter spreads to the benefit of all market participants, even to those market participants that are either currently affiliated by virtue of their common ownership or that opt not to become an Appointed OEF or Appointed MM under this proposal.

### 4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed amendments to its fee schedule would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes are pro-competitive as they would increase opportunities for firms to qualify for tiered pricing on the Exchange, which may increase intermarket and intramarket competition by incenting participants to direct their orders to the Exchange thereby increasing the

volume of contracts traded on the Exchange and enhancing the quality of quoting. Enhanced market quality and increased transaction volume that results from the anticipated increase in order flow directed to the Exchange would benefit all market participants and improve competition on the Exchange. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually review, and consider adjusting, its fees and rebates to remain competitive with other exchanges. For the reasons described above, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment.

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any written comments from members or other interested parties.

- 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>

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>15</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,<sup>16</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge applicable to the Exchange's Members and non-Members, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

- 11. Exhibits
  - Exhibit 1: Completed Notice of the Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.
  - Exhibit 2-4: Not applicable.
  - Exhibit 5: Text of Proposed Rule Change.

#### EXHIBIT 1

| SECURITIES AND EXCHANG | GE COMMISSION                  |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (Release No. 34        | ; File No. SR-BatsBZX-2016-04) |

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Bats BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Related to Fees for its Equity Options Platform

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

The Exchange filed a proposal to amend the fee schedule applicable to Members<sup>5</sup> and non-members of the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rules 15.1(a) and (c).

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

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

The term "Member" is defined as "any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange." See Exchange Rule 1.5(n).

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at <a href="www.batstrading.com">www.batstrading.com</a>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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 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 parts of such statements.

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

The Exchange proposes to amend its fee schedule ("Fee Schedule") for its equity options platform ("BZX Options") to add the definitions of "Appointed MM" and "Appointed OEF", effective April 1, 2016, which would increase opportunities for firms to qualify for tiered pricing on BZX Options. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to allow a Market Maker to designate an Order Entry Firm ("OEF") as its "Appointed OEF" and for an OEF to designate a Market Maker as its "Appointed MM," for purposes of the Fee Schedule. Members of BZX Options would effectuate such designation by completing and sending an executed Volume Aggregation and Execution Detail Request

form by email to the Exchange.<sup>6</sup> As specified in the proposed Fee Schedule, the Exchange would view the transmittal of the completed form as acceptance of such an appointment.<sup>7</sup> The proposed new concepts would be applicable to all tiered pricing offered by the Exchange, and are designed to increase opportunities for firms to qualify for such tiers.

The Exchange currently offers tiers as described in the footnotes section of the Fee Schedule. Under the current tiers, Members that achieve certain volume criteria may qualify for reduced fees or enhanced rebates for various executions, including executions of Customer<sup>8</sup> and Market Maker<sup>9</sup> orders. In connection with such tiers, the Exchange calculates on a monthly basis a Member's ADV<sup>10</sup> and/or ADAV<sup>11</sup> in the applicable category (e.g., Customer orders or Market Maker orders), as a percentage of average

See proposed language for "Designating an Appointed OEF/Appointed MM" under "Definitions" section of the Fee Schedule. Members should direct their executed forms to <a href="mailto:membershipservices@bats.com">membershipservices@bats.com</a>.

The Exchange further notes that, as proposed, the Exchange would only recognize one such designation for each party once every 12 months, which designation would remain in effect unless or until the Exchange receives written notice from either party indicating that the appointment has been terminated. <u>Id</u>.

The term "Customer" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Customer range at the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"), excluding any transaction for a Broker Dealer or a "Professional" as defined in Exchange Rule 16.1.

The term "Market Maker" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Market Maker range at the OCC, where such Member is registered with the Exchange as a Market Maker as defined in Rule 16.1(a)(37).

<sup>&</sup>quot;ADV" means average daily volume calculated as the number of contracts added or removed, combined, per day.

<sup>&</sup>quot;ADAV" means average daily added volume calculated as the number of contracts per day.

TCV.<sup>12</sup> The Exchange also offers various incentives focused on growth that compare a Member's ADAV as compared to a baseline ADAV established in a prior period (i.e., the Exchange's "step-up" pricing). Upon reaching a volume threshold that qualifies a Member for a specified tier, a Member receives the enhanced rebate or reduced fee associated with the highest tier achieved for each eligible contract executed on the Exchange. Under the Exchange's current Fee Schedule, a Member is permitted to aggregate volume with other Members that control, are controlled by, or are under common control with such Member. Thus, Members that act as OEFs with affiliated broker-dealers that are Market Makers on the Exchange, and vice-versa, may be able to qualify for certain pricing incentives offered by the Exchange based on such affiliation and aggregation.

The proposal would be available to all Market Makers and OEFs. Specifically, the proposed changes would enable any Market Maker to qualify an Appointed OEF for purposes of volume-based tiers on the Exchange. In this regard, the proposed change would enable a Market Maker without an affiliated OEF – or with an affiliated OEF that doesn't meet the volume requirements for tiered pricing – to enter into a relationship with an Appointed OEF. Similarly, as proposed, an OEF, by virtue of designating an Appointed MM, would be able to aggregate its own Customer volume with the activity of

<sup>&</sup>quot;TCV" means total consolidated volume calculated as the volume reported by all exchanges to the consolidated transaction reporting plan for the month for which the fees apply, excluding volume on any day that the Exchange experiences an Exchange System Disruption and on any day with a scheduled early market close.

its Appointed MM, which would enhance the OEF's potential to qualify for tiered pricing.<sup>13</sup>

Thus, the proposed changes would enable firms that may not currently be eligible for tiered pricing incentives to avail themselves of such incentives as well as to assist firms that are currently eligible for such incentives to potentially achieve a higher tier, thus qualifying for higher rebates or reduced fees. The Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize firms to direct their order flow to the Exchange to the benefit of all market participants. Further, the Exchange believes that the proposed changes would encourage Market Maker firms to increase their participation on the Exchange, which would increase capital commitment and liquidity on the Exchange to the benefit of all market participants.

As proposed, the Exchange would only process one designation of an Appointed OEF and Appointed MM per year, which designation would remain in effect unless or until the parties informed the Exchange of its termination. <sup>14</sup> The Exchange believes that this requirement would impose a measure of exclusivity and would enable both parties to rely upon each other's transaction volumes executed on the Exchange, and potentially increase such volumes, which is beneficial to all Exchange participants.

An OEF that has both an Appointed MM and an affiliated Market Maker may only aggregate volumes with one of these two, not both. Specifically, the Exchange proposes to specify in the definitions section that that "[w]ith prior notice to the Exchange, a Member may aggregate ADAV or ADV with other Members that control, are controlled by, or are under common control with such Member *or* who have been appointed as an Appointed OEF or Appointed OEF." See proposed Fee Schedule, "Definitions", emphasis added.

See supra, note 7.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder that are applicable to a national securities exchange, and, in particular, with the requirements of Section 6 of the Act. Specifically, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and other persons using any facility or system which the Exchange operates or controls.

The Exchange believes that its proposed fees and rebates are reasonable, fair and equitable, and non-discriminatory for the following reasons. First, the proposal would be available to all Market Makers and OEFs and the decision to be designated as an "Appointed OEF" or "Appointed MM" is completely voluntary and Members may elect to accept this appointment or not. In addition, the proposed changes would enable firms that are not currently eligible for tiered pricing to avail themselves such pricing as well as to assist firms that are currently eligible for such tiers to potentially achieve a higher tier, thus qualifying for higher rebates or lower fees. The Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize firms to direct their order flow to the Exchange. Specifically, the proposed changes would enable any Market Maker to qualify its Appointed OEF for purposes of tiered pricing. Moreover, the proposed change would allow any OEF, by virtue of designating an Appointed MM, to aggregate its own volume, including

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

Customer volume, with the activity of its Appointed MM, which would enhance the OEF's potential to qualify for enhanced rebates or reduced fees. The Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize Appointed OEFs with an Appointed MM to direct their order flow to the Exchange, which increase in orders routed to the Exchange would benefit all market participants by expanding liquidity and providing more trading opportunities on the Exchange. Similarly, the Exchange believes these proposed changes would incentivize Appointed MMs with an Appointed OEF to increase their participation on the Exchange, which would increase capital commitment and liquidity and decrease spreads on the Exchange to the benefit of all market participants. The Exchange believes that, similar to volume based tiers offered by the Exchange, the benefits of the proposal extend to all market participants based on the increased quality of liquidity on the Exchange, including those market participants that opt not to become an Appointed OEF or Appointed MM.

Further, the Exchange believes that the proposal is reasonable and equitably allocated because it is beneficial to all Exchange participants based on the fact that it enables parties to rely upon each other's transaction volumes executed on the Exchange, and potentially increase such volumes. In turn, as above, the potential increase in order flow, capital commitment and resulting liquidity on the Exchange would benefit all market participants by expanding liquidity, providing more trading opportunities and tighter spreads. The proposal is also reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange would only process one designation of an Appointed OEF and Appointed MM per year, which requirement would impose a measure of exclusivity while allowing both parties to rely upon each other's transaction

volumes executed on the Exchange, and potentially increase such volumes, again, to the benefit of all market participants. Finally, the Exchange believes the proposal is reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory as it may encourage an increase in orders routed to the Exchange, which would expand liquidity and provide more trading opportunities and tighter spreads to the benefit of all market participants, even to those market participants that are either currently affiliated by virtue of their common ownership or that opt not to become an Appointed OEF or Appointed MM under this proposal.

# (B) <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed amendments to its fee schedule would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes are pro-competitive as they would increase opportunities for firms to qualify for tiered pricing on the Exchange, which may increase intermarket and intramarket competition by incenting participants to direct their orders to the Exchange thereby increasing the volume of contracts traded on the Exchange and enhancing the quality of quoting. Enhanced market quality and increased transaction volume that results from the anticipated increase in order flow directed to the Exchange would benefit all market participants and improve competition on the Exchange. The Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually review, and consider adjusting, its fees and rebates to remain competitive with other exchanges. For the reasons described above, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects

this competitive environment.

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

The Exchange has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments on this proposed rule change. The Exchange has not received any written comments from members or other interested parties.

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) of the Act<sup>17</sup> and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>18</sup> 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.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### **Electronic Comments:**

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-BatsBZX-2016-04 on the subject line.

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

## 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 No. SR-BatsBZX-2016-04. 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, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing will also 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 No. SR-BatsBZX-2016-04 and should be submitted on or before [\_\_\_\_\_21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to

delegated authority. 19

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

#### EXHIBIT 5

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

#### **Bats BZX Options Exchange Fee Schedule**

Effective [March]April 1, 2016

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Definitions:**

- All references to "per contract" mean "per contract executed".
- "ADAV" means average daily added volume calculated as the number of contracts added and "ADV" means average daily volume calculated as the number of contracts added or removed, combined, per day.
  - ADAV and ADV are calculated on a monthly basis, excluding contracts added or removed on any day that the Exchange's system experiences a disruption that lasts for more than 60 minutes during regular trading hours ("Exchange System Disruption") and on any day with a scheduled early market close.
  - o Routed contracts are not included in ADAV or ADV calculation.
  - o With prior notice to the Exchange, a Member may aggregate ADAV or ADV with other Members that control, are controlled by, or are under common control with such Member or who have been appointed as an Appointed OEF or Appointed MM.
- An "Appointed MM" is a Market Maker who has been appointed by an OEF and an "Appointed OEF" is an OEF who has been appointed by a Market Maker as set forth below.
  - O Designating an Appointed OEF/Appointed MM: A Market Maker appoints an OEF and an OEF appoints a Market Maker, for the purposes of the Fee Schedule, by each completing and sending an executed Volume Aggregation and Execution Detail Request form by email to membershipservices@bats.com. Transmittal of the executed form to the Exchange will be viewed as acceptance of the appointment. The Exchange will recognize one such designation for each party. A party may make a designation not more than once every 12 months, which designation shall remain in effect unless or until the Exchange receives written notice from either party indicating that the appointment has been terminated.

\* \* \* \* \*

- "Non-Customer" applies to any transaction that is not a Customer order.
- "OEF" means Order Entry Firm as defined in Rule 16.1.

\* \* \* \* \*