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OMB APPROVAL

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

Page 1 of *	23		EXCHANGE ( STON, D.C. 20 orm 19b-4	0549		File No.* S	SR - 2017 - * 17 mendments *)
Filing by Bats BZX Exchange, Inc.							
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Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b	_	Section .	n 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
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Notice of	proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Cleari	ng, and Settler	ment Act of 201			Submission pursuant
Section 8	306(e)(1) *	Section 806(e)(2) *				to the Securities Excha Section 3C(b)(2)	-
Exhibit 2 S		Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Do	cument		'		
Description  Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  The Exchange proposes rule changes 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 Nar	me * Anders		Last Name *	Franzon			
Title * SVP, Associate General Counsel							
E-mail *	E-mail * afranzon@bats.com						
Telephor	ne * (913) 815-7154	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 03/01/2017 SVP, Associate General Counsel							
	nders Franzon		ovi , Associa	o General GC	Julioti		
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this form.	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" or "Exchange Act"), 1 and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, 2 Bats BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX" or the "Exchange") proposes to amend its fees and rebates applicable to Members 3 and non-Members of the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rule 15.1(a) and (c). The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.
  - (b) Inapplicable.
  - (c) Inapplicable.

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

The Exchange submits the proposed rule change pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange on February 11, 2014. 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.

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

Eric Swanson
Executive Vice President and
General Counsel
(913) 815-7000

Anders Franzon SVP, Associate General Counsel (913) 815-7154

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

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

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

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).

#### (a) Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its fee schedule for its equity options platform ("BZX Options") to: (i) decrease the standard rebate provided by fee code PF; (ii) increase the standard fee assessed by fee code NP; (iii) increase the enhanced rebate provided in Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office Non-Penny Pilot Add Volume Tier 3, under footnote 8; (iv) increase the discounted fee provided in the Non-Customer<sup>4</sup> Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tier 1, under footnote 13; (v) eliminate the existing Non-Customer Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tier 2, under footnote 13; and (vi) increase the discounted fee provided in the Non-Customer Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tier 3 (to be re-numbered as Tier 2), under footnote 13.

#### Decrease the Standard Rebate Provided by Fee Code PF

Currently, fee code PF of the Exchange's fee schedule sets forth the standard rebate of \$0.36 per contract for Firm,<sup>5</sup> Broker Dealer,<sup>6</sup> and Join Back Office<sup>7</sup> orders that add liquidity on the Exchange in Penny-Pilot securities. The Exchange now proposes to

<sup>&</sup>quot;Non-Customer" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing which is not in the Customer range at the OCC, excluding any transaction for a Broker Dealer or a "Professional" as defined in Exchange Rule 16.1. See the Exchange's fee schedule <a href="mailto:available at http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/">available at http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Firm" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Firm range at the OCC, excluding any Joint Back Office transaction. <u>Id</u>.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Broker Dealer" applies to any order for the account of a broker dealer, including a foreign broker dealer, that clears in the Customer range at the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"). <u>Id</u>.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Joint Back Office" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Firm range at the OCC that is identified with an origin code as Joint Back Office. A Joint Back Office participant is a Member that maintains a Joint Back Office arrangement with a clearing broker-dealer. Id.

reduce this standard rebate to \$0.26 per contract. The Exchange also proposes to update the Standard Rates table accordingly to reflect new standard rebate.

#### Increase the Standard Fee Assessed by Fee Code NP

Currently, fee code NP of the Exchange's fee schedule sets forth the standard fee of \$1.07 per contract for Non-Customer orders that remove liquidity on the Exchange in Non-Penny Pilot securities. The Exchange now proposes to increase this standard fee to \$1.10 per contract. The Exchange also proposes to update the Standard Rates table accordingly to reflect new standard fee.

<u>Increase the Enhanced Rebate Provided in Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back</u>

<u>Office Non-Penny Pilot Add Volume Tier 3, Under Footnote 8</u>

Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office orders that add liquidity in Non-Penny Pilot securities yield fee code NF and are provided a standard rebate of \$0.30 per contract. Footnote 8 of the fee schedule sets forth three tiers, each providing enhanced rebates between \$0.45 and \$0.69 per contract to a Member's order that yields fee code NF upon satisfying monthly volume criteria. Under Tier 3, qualifying Members earn a rebate per share of \$0.69 on Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office orders that add liquidity in options in Non Penny Pilot securities. Currently, to qualify for this tier a Member must have: (i) an ADV<sup>8</sup> greater than or equal to 2.30% of average OCV; 9 and

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

<sup>&</sup>quot;OCV" means the total equity and ETF options volume that clears in the Customer range at the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") 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. See the Exchange's fee schedule available at <a href="http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/">http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/</a>.

(ii) an ADAV<sup>10</sup> in Away Market Maker,<sup>11</sup> Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office orders greater than or equal to 1.65% of average OCV. The Exchange proposes to increase the enhanced rebate provided by Tier 3 to \$0.82 per contract. The Exchange also proposes to update the Standard Rates table accordingly to reflect this new enhanced rebate.

# <u>Modifications to Non-Customer Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tiers under</u> Footnote 13

Non-Customer orders that yield fee code NP are charged a standard fee of \$1.07 per contract. Footnote 13 of the fee schedule sets forth three tiers, each providing reduced fees of either \$1.01 or \$1.02 per contract to a Member's order that yields fee code NP upon satisfying monthly volume criteria.

Tier 1 offers a reduced fee of \$1.02 per share and currently requires that a
 Member has: (i) an ADAV in Customer<sup>12</sup> orders greater than or equal to 0.80% of average OCV; (ii) an ADAV in Market Maker<sup>13</sup> orders greater than or equal

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

<sup>&</sup>quot;Away Market Maker" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Market Maker range at the OCC, where such Member is not registered with the Exchange as a Market Maker, but is registered as a market maker on another options exchange. <u>Id</u>.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Customer" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Customer range at the OCC, excluding any transaction for a Broker Dealer or a "Professional" as defined in Exchange Rule 16.1. Id.

<sup>&</sup>quot;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). See the Exchange's fee schedule available at <a href="http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/">http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/</a>.

to 0.35% of average OCV; and (iii) on the Exchange's equity securities platform ("BZX Equities") an ADAV greater than or equal to 0.30% of average TCV. As amended, Tier 1 will offer a reduced fee of \$1.04 per share. The Exchange does not propose to modify the required criteria for this Tier as part of this filing.

- Tier 2 offers a reduced fee of \$1.02 per share and currently requires that a
   Member has an ADAV in Customer orders greater than or equal to 1.30% of average OCV. The Exchange proposes to eliminate Tier 2.
- Tier 3 offers a reduced fee of \$1.01 per share and currently requires that a Member has an ADAV in Customer orders greater than or equal to 1.30% of average OCV. The Exchange proposes to re-number Tier 3 as Tier 2 based on the elimination of Tier 2 discussed above. Also, as amended, Tier 2 will offer a reduced fee of \$1.04 per share. The Exchange does not propose to modify the required criteria for this Tier as part of this filing.

#### Implementation Date

The Exchange proposes to implement the above changes to its fee schedule on March 1, 2017.<sup>14</sup>

#### (b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule changes are consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act, <sup>15</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section

The Exchange notes that the date of its fee schedule was previously amended to state March 1, 2017 in SR-BatsBZX-2017-05. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79956 (February 3, 2017), 82 FR 10102 (February 9, 2017).

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

6(b)(4), <sup>16</sup> in particular, as it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange also notes that it operates in a highly-competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or incentives to be insufficient. The proposed rule changes reflect a competitive pricing structure designed to incentivize market participants to direct their order flow to the Exchange.

#### Fee Codes PF and NP

The Exchange believes that its proposals to reduce the rebate provided by fee code PF and increase the fee provided by fee code NP are fair and equitable and reasonable because, such proposed fees and rebates remain consistent with pricing previously offered by the Exchange as well as competitors of the Exchange and do not represent a significant departure from the Exchange's general pricing structure and will allow the Exchange to earn additional revenue that can be used to offset the addition of new pricing incentives. Lastly, the proposed changes to fee codes PF and NP are not unfairly discriminatory because they will apply equally to all Members.

#### Modifications to the Volume Discount Tier Rebates and Required Criteria

The Exchange believes that the proposed modifications to the tiered pricing structure are reasonable, fair and equitable, and non-discriminatory. The Exchange operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants may readily send order flow to many competing venues if they deem fees at the Exchange to be excessive

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

or incentives provided to be insufficient. The proposed fee structure remains intended to attract order flow to the Exchange by offering market participants a competitive pricing structure. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to offer and incrementally modify incentives intended to help to contribute to the growth of the Exchange.

Volume-based pricing such as that proposed herein have been widely adopted by exchanges, including the Exchange, and are equitable because they are open to all Members on an equal basis and provide additional benefits or discounts that are reasonably related to: (i) the value to an exchange's market quality; (ii) associated higher levels of market activity, such as higher levels of liquidity provisions and/or growth patterns; and (iii) introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery processes.

The proposed modifications proposed herein are also intended to incentivize additional Members to send orders to the Exchange in an effort to qualify for the enhanced rebate or reduced fee made available by the tiers, in turn contributing to the growth of the Exchange. Thus, the Exchange believes that the proposed modifications to the tiered pricing structure is a reasonable, fair and equitable, and not an unfairly discriminatory allocation of fees and rebates, because it will provide Members with an incentive to reach certain thresholds on the Exchange by contributing a meaningful amount of order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes the proposed change to each tier's criteria is consistent with the Act.

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

The Exchange believes the proposed amendment to its fee schedule would not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of

the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed change represents a significant departure from previous pricing offered by the Exchange or pricing offered by the Exchange's competitors. Additionally, Members may opt to disfavor the Exchange's pricing if they believe that alternatives offer them better value. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will impair the ability of Members or competing venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed change to the Exchange's standard fees, rebates and tiered pricing structure burdens competition, but instead, enhances competition as it is intended to increase the competitiveness of the Exchange.

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.

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>

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>17</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder, <sup>18</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

due, fee, or other charge applicable to the Exchange's Members and non-members, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

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.

9. 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: Completed Notice of the Proposed Rule Change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

Exhibit 2-4: Not applicable.

Exhibit 5: Text of Proposed Rule Change.

#### EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHAN	GE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-	; File No. SR-BatsBZX-2017-17)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Bats BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Related to Fees for Use on the Exchange's 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="https://www.bats.com">www.bats.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 for its equity options platform ("BZX Options") to: (i) decrease the standard rebate provided by fee code PF; (ii) increase the standard fee assessed by fee code NP; (iii) increase the enhanced rebate provided in Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office Non-Penny Pilot Add Volume Tier 3, under footnote 8; (iv) increase the discounted fee provided in the Non-Customer<sup>6</sup> Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tier 1, under footnote 13; (v) eliminate the existing Non-Customer Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tier 2, under footnote 13; and (vi) increase the discounted fee provided in the Non-Customer Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tier 3 (to

<sup>&</sup>quot;Non-Customer" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing which is not in the Customer range at the OCC, excluding any transaction for a Broker Dealer or a "Professional" as defined in Exchange Rule 16.1. See the Exchange's fee schedule <a href="mailto:available at http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/">available at http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/</a>.

be re-numbered as Tier 2), under footnote 13.

#### Decrease the Standard Rebate Provided by Fee Code PF

Currently, fee code PF of the Exchange's fee schedule sets forth the standard rebate of \$0.36 per contract for Firm, <sup>7</sup> Broker Dealer, <sup>8</sup> and Join Back Office <sup>9</sup> orders that add liquidity on the Exchange in Penny-Pilot securities. The Exchange now proposes to reduce this standard rebate to \$0.26 per contract. The Exchange also proposes to update the Standard Rates table accordingly to reflect new standard rebate.

#### Increase the Standard Fee Assessed by Fee Code NP

Currently, fee code NP of the Exchange's fee schedule sets forth the standard fee of \$1.07 per contract for Non-Customer orders that remove liquidity on the Exchange in Non-Penny Pilot securities. The Exchange now proposes to increase this standard fee to \$1.10 per contract. The Exchange also proposes to update the Standard Rates table accordingly to reflect new standard fee.

Increase the Enhanced Rebate Provided in Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back

Office Non-Penny Pilot Add Volume Tier 3, Under Footnote 8

Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office orders that add liquidity in Non-Penny Pilot securities yield fee code NF and are provided a standard rebate of \$0.30 per

<sup>&</sup>quot;Firm" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Firm range at the OCC, excluding any Joint Back Office transaction. <u>Id</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Broker Dealer" applies to any order for the account of a broker dealer, including a foreign broker dealer, that clears in the Customer range at the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC"). <u>Id</u>.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Joint Back Office" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Firm range at the OCC that is identified with an origin code as Joint Back Office. A Joint Back Office participant is a Member that maintains a Joint Back Office arrangement with a clearing broker-dealer. Id.

contract. Footnote 8 of the fee schedule sets forth three tiers, each providing enhanced rebates between \$0.45 and \$0.69 per contract to a Member's order that yields fee code NF upon satisfying monthly volume criteria. Under Tier 3, qualifying Members earn a rebate per share of \$0.69 on Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office orders that add liquidity in options in Non Penny Pilot securities. Currently, to qualify for this tier a Member must have: (i) an ADV<sup>10</sup> greater than or equal to 2.30% of average OCV; <sup>11</sup> and (ii) an ADAV<sup>12</sup> in Away Market Maker, <sup>13</sup> Firm, Broker Dealer and Joint Back Office orders greater than or equal to 1.65% of average OCV. The Exchange proposes to increase the enhanced rebate provided by Tier 3 to \$0.82 per contract. The Exchange also proposes to update the Standard Rates table accordingly to reflect this new enhanced rebate.

<u>Modifications to Non-Customer Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tiers under</u> <u>Footnote 13</u>

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

<sup>&</sup>quot;OCV" means the total equity and ETF options volume that clears in the Customer range at the Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") 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. See the Exchange's fee schedule <a href="available at http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/">available at http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/</a>.

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

<sup>&</sup>quot;Away Market Maker" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Market Maker range at the OCC, where such Member is not registered with the Exchange as a Market Maker, but is registered as a market maker on another options exchange. Id.

Non-Customer orders that yield fee code NP are charged a standard fee of \$1.07 per contract. Footnote 13 of the fee schedule sets forth three tiers, each providing reduced fees of either \$1.01 or \$1.02 per contract to a Member's order that yields fee code NP upon satisfying monthly volume criteria.

- Tier 1 offers a reduced fee of \$1.02 per share and currently requires that a

  Member has: (i) an ADAV in Customer<sup>14</sup> orders greater than or equal to 0.80% of
  average OCV; (ii) an ADAV in Market Maker<sup>15</sup> orders greater than or equal to
  0.35% of average OCV; and (iii) on the Exchange's equity securities platform
  ("BZX Equities") an ADAV greater than or equal to 0.30% of average TCV. As
  amended, Tier 1 will offer a reduced fee of \$1.04 per share. The Exchange does
  not propose to modify the required criteria for this Tier as part of this filing.
- Tier 2 offers a reduced fee of \$1.02 per share and currently requires that a
   Member has an ADAV in Customer orders greater than or equal to 1.30% of average OCV. The Exchange proposes to eliminate Tier 2.
- Tier 3 offers a reduced fee of \$1.01 per share and currently requires that a
   Member has an ADAV in Customer orders greater than or equal to 1.30% of
   average OCV. The Exchange proposes to re-number Tier 3 as Tier 2 based on the
   elimination of Tier 2 discussed above. Also, as amended, Tier 2 will offer a

<sup>&</sup>quot;Customer" applies to any transaction identified by a Member for clearing in the Customer range at the OCC, excluding any transaction for a Broker Dealer or a "Professional" as defined in Exchange Rule 16.1. <u>Id</u>.

<sup>&</sup>quot;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). See the Exchange's fee schedule available at <a href="http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/">http://www.bats.com/us/options/membership/fee\_schedule/bzx/</a>.

reduced fee of \$1.04 per share. The Exchange does not propose to modify the required criteria for this Tier as part of this filing.

#### <u>Implementation Date</u>

The Exchange proposes to implement the above changes to its fee schedule on March 1, 2017. 16

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule changes are consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act,<sup>17</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4),<sup>18</sup> in particular, as it is designed to provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange also notes that it operates in a highly-competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or incentives to be insufficient. The proposed rule changes reflect a competitive pricing structure designed to incentivize market participants to direct their order flow to the Exchange.

#### Fee Codes PF and NP

The Exchange believes that its proposals to reduce the rebate provided by fee code PF and increase the fee provided by fee code NP are fair and equitable and reasonable because, such proposed fees and rebates remain consistent with pricing

The Exchange notes that the date of its fee schedule was previously amended to state March 1, 2017 in SR-BatsBZX-2017-05. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79956 (February 3, 2017), 82 FR 10102 (February 9, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

previously offered by the Exchange as well as competitors of the Exchange and do not represent a significant departure from the Exchange's general pricing structure and will allow the Exchange to earn additional revenue that can be used to offset the addition of new pricing incentives. Lastly, the proposed changes to fee codes PF and NP are not unfairly discriminatory because they will apply equally to all Members.

#### Modifications to the Volume Discount Tier Rebates and Required Criteria

The Exchange believes that the proposed modifications to the tiered pricing structure are reasonable, fair and equitable, and non-discriminatory. The Exchange operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants may readily send order flow to many competing venues if they deem fees at the Exchange to be excessive or incentives provided to be insufficient. The proposed fee structure remains intended to attract order flow to the Exchange by offering market participants a competitive pricing structure. The Exchange believes it is reasonable to offer and incrementally modify incentives intended to help to contribute to the growth of the Exchange.

Volume-based pricing such as that proposed herein have been widely adopted by exchanges, including the Exchange, and are equitable because they are open to all Members on an equal basis and provide additional benefits or discounts that are reasonably related to: (i) the value to an exchange's market quality; (ii) associated higher levels of market activity, such as higher levels of liquidity provisions and/or growth patterns; and (iii) introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery processes.

The proposed modifications proposed herein are also intended to incentivize additional Members to send orders to the Exchange in an effort to qualify for the

enhanced rebate or reduced fee made available by the tiers, in turn contributing to the growth of the Exchange. Thus, the Exchange believes that the proposed modifications to the tiered pricing structure is a reasonable, fair and equitable, and not an unfairly discriminatory allocation of fees and rebates, because it will provide Members with an incentive to reach certain thresholds on the Exchange by contributing a meaningful amount of order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes the proposed change to each tier's criteria is consistent with the Act.

#### (B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange believes the proposed amendment to its fee schedule would not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed change represents a significant departure from previous pricing offered by the Exchange or pricing offered by the Exchange's competitors. Additionally, Members may opt to disfavor the Exchange's pricing if they believe that alternatives offer them better value. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will impair the ability of Members or competing venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed change to the Exchange's standard fees, rebates and tiered pricing structure burdens competition, but instead, enhances competition as it is intended to increase the competitiveness of the Exchange.

(C) <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others 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>19</sup> and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>20</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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-BatsBZX-2017-17 on the subject line.

#### Paper Comments:

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-BatsBZX-2017-17. 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-2017-17 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

> Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

delegated authority.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

### EXHIBIT 5

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

# **Bats BZX Options Exchange Fee Schedule**

# Effective March 1, 2017

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Standard Rates:**

	Penny Pilot Securities			Non-Penny Pilot Securities				
		Add	Remove		Add		Remove	
	Code	Rates	Code	Rates	Code	Rates	Code	Rates
Customer	(No ch	nange).						
Professional	PA	(No change).	PP	(No change).	NA	(No change).	NP	[\$1.07] <u>\$1.10</u>
Firm/BD/JBO	PF	[(\$0.36)] (\$0.26) (\$0.43) (\$0.46)		_	NF	(\$0.30) (\$0.45) (\$0.60) [(\$0.69)] (\$0.82)		\$1.04 [\$1.02 \$1.01]
Market Maker	PM	(No change).			NM	(No change).		
Away Market Maker	PN	(No change).			NN	(No change).		

#### **Fee Codes and Associated Fees:**

Fee Code	Description	Fee/(Rebate)
D1 - NN <sup>4,11</sup>	(No change).	
NP <sup>13</sup>	Removes liquidity (Non-Customer), Non-Penny	[1.07] <u>1.10</u>
NY <sup>12</sup> - PC <sup>14</sup>	(No change).	
$PF^{2,4}$	Adds liquidity (Firm/BD/JBO), Penny Pilot	[(0.36)](0.26)
PM <sup>4,5,6</sup> - RR	(No change).	

# <sup>8</sup> Firm, Broker Dealer, and Joint Back Office Non-Penny Pilot Add Volume Tiers Applicable to fee code NF.

Tier	Rebate Per Contract to Add	Required Criteria
Tier 1 – Tier 2	(No change).	
Tier 3	[(\$0.69)](\$0.82)	<ul> <li>(1) Member has an ADV ≥ 2.30% of average OCV; and</li> <li>(2) Member has an ADAV in Away MM/Firm/BD/JBO orders ≥ 1.65% of average OCV</li> </ul>

\* \* \* \* \*

# <sup>13</sup> Non-Customer Non-Penny Pilot Take Volume Tiers

Applicable to fee code NP.

Tier	Fee Per Contract to Remove	Required Criteria
Tier 1	[\$1.02] <u>\$1.04</u>	(1) Member has an ADAV in Customer orders≥ 0.80% of average OCV;
		(2) Member has an ADAV in Market Maker orders ≥ 0.35% of average OCV; and
		(3) Member has on BZX Equities an ADAV ≥ 0.30% of average TCV
[Tier 2	\$1.02	Member has an ADAV in Customer orders ≥ 1.30% of average OCV]
Tier [3]2	[\$1.01] <u>\$1.04</u>	Member has an ADAV in Customer orders ≥ 1.70% of average OCV