Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

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

Page 1 of * 18	WASHING	EXCHANGE COMMISSION STON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4	File No.* Amendment No. (req. for A	SR - 2018 - * 015 Amendments *)	
Filing by Cboe BZX Exchange,	Inc.				
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the	e Securities Exchange	Act of 1934			
Initial * Amendment *	Withdrawal	l	Section 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	L)ate Expires *	□ 19	bb-4(f)(1)		
Notice of proposed change pursuar	nt to the Payment, Cleari	ing, and Settlement Act of 201	,	p Submission pursuant	
Section 806(e)(1) *	Section 806(e)(2) *		to the Securities Excl Section 3C(b)(2	-	
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document					
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). The Exchange proposes a rule change related to fees.					
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.					
First Name * Chris		Last Name * Solgan			
Title * Assistant General C					
E-mail * csolgan@cboe.com					
Telephone * (646) 856-8723	Fax				
Signature					
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,					
has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized. (Title *)					
Date 03/01/2018	[.	Assistant General Counsel	<u>'</u>		
By Chris 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) 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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BZX") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change to amend the fee schedule applicable to Members³ and non-Members of the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rules 15.1(a) and (c). Changes to the fee schedule pursuant to this proposal are effective upon filing.

- (a) 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. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

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 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.

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).

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

Patrick Sexton
Executive Vice President, General
Counsel, and Corporate Secretary
(312) 786-7467

Chris Solgan Assistant General Counsel (646) 856-8723

- 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 the fee schedule applicable to its equities trading platform ("BZX Equities") to add a second Step-Up Tier under footnote 2. The Exchange currently offers one Step-Up Tier that provides Members with an additional way to qualify for an enhanced rebate where they increase their liquidity each month over a predetermined baseline. Under the current Step-Up Tier, a Member receives a rebate of \$0.0030 per share for qualifying orders which yield fee codes B, ⁴ V, ⁵ or Y ⁶ where their: (1) Step-Up Add TCV ⁷ from April 2016 is equal to or greater than 0.15%; and (2) ADAV ⁸ as a percentage of TCV ⁹ is equal to or greater than 0.20%.

Fee code B is appended to displayed orders which add liquidity to Tape B and is provided a rebate of \$0.0025 per share.

Fee code V is appended to displayed orders which add liquidity to Tape A and is provided a rebate of \$0.0020 per share.

Fee code Y is appended to displayed orders which add liquidity to Tape C and is provided a rebate of \$0.0020 per share.

[&]quot;Step-Up Add TCV" means ADAV as a percentage of TCV in the relevant baseline month subtracted from current ADAV as a percentage of TCV. See the BZX Equities fee schedule available at http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/membership/fee schedule/bzx/.

⁸ "ADAV" means average daily added volume calculated as the number of shares added per day and "ADV" means average daily volume calculated as the number

The Exchange now proposes to amend footnote 2 to add a second Step-Up Tier under which the volume measured to determine whether a Member qualifies is performed on a Member Participant Identifier ("MPID") by MPID basis. ¹⁰ Under the proposed Tier 2, a Member would receive a rebate of \$0.0031 per share for their qualifying orders which yield fee codes B, V, or Y where their individual MPID has: (1) a Step-Up Add TCV from January 2018 equal to or greater than 0.30%; and (2) an ADAV as a percentage of TCV equal to or greater than 0.45%. The Exchange proposes to implement this amendments to its fee schedule on March 1, 2018.

(b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act, ¹¹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4), ¹² 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 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. The proposed rule change reflects a competitive pricing structure designed to incent market participants to direct their order

of shares added or removed, combined, per day. ADAV and ADV are calculated on a monthly basis. Id.

[&]quot;TCV" means total consolidated volume calculated as the volume reported by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities to a consolidated transaction reporting plan for the month for which the fees apply. <u>Id</u>.

The Exchange proposes to number the existing tier as Tier 1.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes that the proposed tier is equitable and nondiscriminatory in it would apply uniformly to all Members.

Volume-based rebates 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 provision and/or growth patterns; and (iii) introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery processes. The Exchange believes that the proposed tier is a reasonable, fair and equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory allocation of fees and rebates because it will continue to provide Members with an incentive to reach certain thresholds on the Exchange.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed Step-Up Tier is a reasonable means to encourage Members to increase their liquidity on the Exchange based on increasing their volume above a predetermined baseline. The Exchange further believes that the proposed Step-Up Tier represents an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges because the thresholds necessary to achieve the tier encourages Members to add increased liquidity to the BZX Book 13 each month. The increased liquidity benefits all investors by deepening the Exchange's liquidity pool, offering additional flexibility for all investors to enjoy cost savings, supporting the quality of price discovery, promoting market transparency and improving investor protection. The Exchange also believes that proposed rebate is reasonable based on the difficulty of

^{13 &}lt;u>See</u> Exchange Rule 1.5(e).

satisfying the tier's criteria as compared to the existing Step-Up Tier, which provides a lower rebate and less stringent criteria. By applying the tier on a single MPID rather than across a Member's entire trading activity, the Exchange is also allowing more Members to potentially receive the enhanced rebates for their trading activity related to that individual MPID's liquidity provisioning.

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

The Exchange does not believe its proposed tier would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed tier 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. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed tier would burden competition, but instead, enhance competition, as it is intended to increase the competitiveness of and draw additional volume to the Exchange. The Exchange does not believe the proposed tier would burden intramarket competition as it would apply to all Members uniformly. 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.

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 unsolicited 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</u> Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act¹⁴ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,¹⁵ 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.

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. <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>.

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

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-CboeBZX-2018-015

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Related to Transaction Fees

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 Members⁵ and non-Members of the Exchange pursuant to BZX Rules 15.1(a) and (c).

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 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).

www.markets.cboe.com, 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> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>
- 1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend the fee schedule applicable to its equities trading platform ("BZX Equities") to add a second Step-Up Tier under footnote 2. The Exchange currently offers one Step-Up Tier that provides Members with an additional way to qualify for an enhanced rebate where they increase their liquidity each month over a predetermined baseline. Under the current Step-Up Tier, a Member receives a rebate of \$0.0030 per share for qualifying orders which yield fee codes B, 6 V, 7 or Y 8 where their:

(1) Step-Up Add TCV 9 from April 2016 is equal to or greater than 0.15%; and (2)

Fee code B is appended to displayed orders which add liquidity to Tape B and is provided a rebate of \$0.0025 per share.

Fee code V is appended to displayed orders which add liquidity to Tape A and is provided a rebate of \$0.0020 per share.

Fee code Y is appended to displayed orders which add liquidity to Tape C and is provided a rebate of \$0.0020 per share.

ADAV¹⁰ as a percentage of TCV¹¹ is equal to or greater than 0.20%.

The Exchange now proposes to amend footnote 2 to add a second Step-Up Tier under which the volume measured to determine whether a Member qualifies is performed on a Member Participant Identifier ("MPID") by MPID basis. ¹² Under the proposed Tier 2, a Member would receive a rebate of \$0.0031 per share for their qualifying orders which yield fee codes B, V, or Y where their individual MPID has: (1) a Step-Up Add TCV from January 2018 equal to or greater than 0.30%; and (2) an ADAV as a percentage of TCV equal to or greater than 0.45%. The Exchange proposes to implement this amendments to its fee schedule on March 1, 2018.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the objectives of Section 6 of the Act, ¹³ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(4), ¹⁴ 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

[&]quot;Step-Up Add TCV" means ADAV as a percentage of TCV in the relevant baseline month subtracted from current ADAV as a percentage of TCV. See the BZX Equities fee schedule available at http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/membership/fee_schedule/bzx/.

[&]quot;ADAV" means average daily added volume calculated as the number of shares added per day and "ADV" means average daily volume calculated as the number of shares added or removed, combined, per day. ADAV and ADV are calculated on a monthly basis. <u>Id</u>.

[&]quot;TCV" means total consolidated volume calculated as the volume reported by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities to a consolidated transaction reporting plan for the month for which the fees apply. Id.

The Exchange proposes to number the existing tier as Tier 1.

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

facilities. The Exchange 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. The proposed rule change reflects a competitive pricing structure designed to incent market participants to direct their order flow to the Exchange. The Exchange believes that the proposed tier is equitable and non-discriminatory in it would apply uniformly to all Members.

Volume-based rebates 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 provision and/or growth patterns; and (iii) introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery processes. The Exchange believes that the proposed tier is a reasonable, fair and equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory allocation of fees and rebates because it will continue to provide Members with an incentive to reach certain thresholds on the Exchange.

In particular, the Exchange believes the proposed Step-Up Tier is a reasonable means to encourage Members to increase their liquidity on the Exchange based on increasing their volume above a predetermined baseline. The Exchange further believes that the proposed Step-Up Tier represents an equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges because the thresholds necessary to achieve the tier encourages

Members to add increased liquidity to the BZX Book¹⁵ each month. The increased liquidity benefits all investors by deepening the Exchange's liquidity pool, offering additional flexibility for all investors to enjoy cost savings, supporting the quality of price discovery, promoting market transparency and improving investor protection. The Exchange also believes that proposed rebate is reasonable based on the difficulty of satisfying the tier's criteria as compared to the existing Step-Up Tier, which provides a lower rebate and less stringent criteria. By applying the tier on a single MPID rather than across a Member's entire trading activity, the Exchange is also allowing more Members to potentially receive the enhanced rebates for their trading activity related to that individual MPID's liquidity provisioning.

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

The Exchange does not believe its proposed tier would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed tier 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. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed tier would burden competition, but instead, enhance competition, as it is intended to increase the competitiveness of and draw additional volume to the Exchange. The Exchange does not believe the proposed tier would burden intramarket competition as it would apply to all Members uniformly. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will impair the ability of Members or competing venues to

^{15 &}lt;u>See</u> Exchange Rule 1.5(e).

maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

(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 unsolicited 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 Act¹⁶ and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁷ 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-CboeBZX-2018-015 on the subject line.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁷ 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-CboeBZX-2018-015. 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. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CboeBZX-2018-XXX 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. 18

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

18

EXHIBIT 5

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

Choe BZX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule

Effective [February]March 1, 2018

* * * * *

Footnotes:

1. (No change).

2. Step-Up Tiers

Applicable to the following fee codes: B, V and Y.

Tier	Rebate Per Share to Add	Required Criteria
Tier <u>1</u>	(\$0.0030)	(1) Member has a Step-Up Add TCV from April $2016 \ge 0.15\%$; and
		(2) Member has an ADAV as a percentage of TCV ≥ 0.20%
Tier 2	(\$0.0031)	(1) MPID has a Step-Up Add TCV from January 2018 ≥ 0.30%; and
		(2) MPID has an ADAV as a percentage of TCV \geq 0.45%

* * * * *