

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
Form 19b-4

File No. * SR 2026 - * 045

Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)

Filing by Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.

Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Initial * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amendment * <input type="checkbox"/>	Withdrawal <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(A) * <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 19(b)(3)(B) * <input type="checkbox"/>
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Pilot <input type="checkbox"/>	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * <input type="checkbox"/>	Date Expires * <input type="text"/>	Rule <input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(1) <input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(2) <input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(5) <input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(3) <input type="checkbox"/> 19b-4(f)(6)		
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Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010 Section 806(e)(1) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Section 806(e)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Section 3C(b)(2) * <input type="checkbox"/>
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Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>	Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document <input type="checkbox"/>
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Description

Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).

The Exchange proposes to adopt fees for its new Clock Service.

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 * Allyson Last Name * Van Marter

Title * Counsel

E-mail * avanmarter@cboe.com

Telephone * (312) 786-7098 Fax

Signature

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

Date 05/18/2026 (Title *)

By Matthew Iwamaye (Name *) VP, Associate General Counsel

NOTE: Clicking the signature block at right will initiate digitally signing the form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.

Matthew Iwamaye Date: 2026.05.18 09:20:51 -05'00'

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and astericks.

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information *

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26-045 (BZX O Clock Service Fee) 19

The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.

Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *

Add Remove View

26-045 (BZX O Clock Service Fee) Ex

The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)

Exhibit 1A - Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies *

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Exhibit 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

Add Remove View

Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

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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 referred to by the proposed rule change.

Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies

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The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit 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

Add Remove View

26-045 (BZX O Clock Service Fee) Ex

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 of the proposed rule change

Partial Amendment

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If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy 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.

Item 1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BZX Options”) proposes to adopt fees for its new Clock Service. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

Item 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

(a) The Exchange’s President (or designee) pursuant to delegated authority approved the proposed rule change on May 13, 2026.

(b) Please refer questions and comments on the proposed rule change to Pat Sexton, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, (312) 786-7467, or Allyson Van Marter, (312) 786-7098, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc., 433 West Van Buren Street, Chicago, Illinois 60607.

Item 3. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its fee schedule to adopt fees, including a free trial, for its new Clock Service offering, effective May 18, 2026. The Exchange recently adopted a new data product known as the Clock Service.¹ The Clock Service is an optional product available to Members and non-Members alike. In sum, a subscriber is able to utilize the Clock Service to synchronize their time recording systems to those of the Exchange for correlated latency measurements between the Exchange’s and the subscriber’s systems time

¹ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105215 (April 16, 2026), 91 FR 20515 (April 13, 2026) (SR-CboeBZX-2026-028).

measurements related to the same message or order. Time synchronization services are well established in the U.S. and utilized in many areas of the U.S. economy and infrastructure.

The Clock Service is not novel to the securities markets and it is similar to the network time synchronization service currently offered by MIAX Emerald, LLC (“MIAX Emerald”).²

The Exchange is providing the Clock Service in response to participant demand for more precise and more accurate clock synchronization options with the Exchange’s network.

Under the Clock Service, participants would be able to synchronize their own primary clock devices to the Exchange’s primary clock device, by receiving White Rabbit time signals from the Exchange via a 1 gigabit per second (“Gbps”) Physical Port. The proposed Clock Service simply provides participants with the ability to synchronize with the Exchange’s time signal at a more granular level, and, as part of the Clock Service, participants will receive a single 1 Gbps Physical Port connection offered by the Exchange in order to receive the signal.³ The improved time signal would tell the participant the Exchange’s time at a more granular level at a particular point in time. The subscribing participant may then use that time signal to synchronize their own primary clock to the Exchange’s primary clock.

As part of the Clock Service, the Exchange proposes to adopt three fees. The first is for the Clock Service itself, while the two other fees are ancillary fees as part of the Clock Service, both of which are optional for subscribers of the Clock Service. The Exchange proposes a fee of \$7,500/month for the Clock Service itself. As part of the

² See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 94915 (May 16, 2022), 87 FR 31022 (May 20, 2022) (SR-EMERALD-2022-16).

³ The Exchange notes that MIAX Emerald, LLC similarly requires a 1 Gbps connection in order to utilize its respective clock service.

Clock Service fee, the Exchange shall provide a 1 Gbps physical port for the participant to use solely for receiving a signal from the Clock Service.⁴

The second fee the Exchange proposes is a redundant Clock Service connection – that includes a⁵ 1 Gbps physical port for a fee of \$2,500/month.⁶ The secondary connection is an optional offering that a subscriber may choose to purchase to supplement their existing Clock Service. This secondary connection can provide redundancy for a subscriber.

Lastly, the Exchange noted in its filing that customers will be required to procure licensing, as applicable. As such, the Exchange is also proposing a one-time High-Accuracy Timing IP Core (“HATI”) licensing set-up fee of \$5,000 for each physical connection.⁷ The HATI license is for participants that do not use a White Rabbit-enabled Safran switch. For example, a firm that utilizes a non-Safran White-Rabbit enabled device must have a HATI license in order to utilize the Clock Service and would be liable for this one-time fee.⁸ The one-time fee is to enable the particular switch for White Rabbit so the firm may use its switch in connection with the Clock Service.

⁴ The Exchange notes that the 1 Gbps physical port that a participant shall receive as part of this Service shall be used solely for the purposes of the Clock Service and will not be able to be used for any other purpose (e.g., order routing).

⁵ The Exchange notes that nothing precludes a firm from purchasing multiple secondary connections.

⁶ The Exchange notes that as part of its Clock Service offering, it provides 1 Gb physical port for connection already.

⁷ For example, if a participant chooses to purchase the secondary connection as well and requires the licensing for both connections, the firm will pay a one-time fee of \$10,000.

⁸ The Exchange notes that the type of switch a firm purchases is due to a firm’s preference in how they optimize their physical infrastructure.

For a mid-month subscription, the monthly fee(s) shall be prorated based on the initial date of the subscription. For clarity, this does not apply to one-time setup fee for the HATI license.

In connection with the launch of Cboe Clock Service, the Exchange proposes to introduce a free trial for the first 30 days for new subscribers. The free trial shall only apply to the Cboe Clock Service fee and, if applicable, a subscriber shall still be liable for (i) the one-time HATI set-up fee per connection and (ii) any additional Clock Service connections. A first-time subscriber would be any subscriber that has not previously subscribed to Cboe Clock Service. The Exchange believes the proposed trial will serve as an incentive for new subscribers to try the proposed Clock Service to determine if it fits the subscriber's needs. Particularly, the Exchange believes it will give potential subscribers the ability to use and test the service before signing up for additional months.

(b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.⁹

Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)¹⁰ requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)¹¹ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Particularly, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and recognized that current regulation of the market system “has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies.”¹² The Service provides subscribing participants with a tool to assist them in recalibrating their own models and trading strategies to improve their overall experience on the Exchange, thereby potentially improving execution and order fill rates. This may improve the Exchange's overall market quality through increased liquidity and improved execution opportunities for resting orders, enhancing the Exchange's overall competitive position. The proposed fees are a result of the competitive environment of the U.S. options industry as the Exchange seeks to adopt fees to attract purchasers of the recently introduced Clock Service.

The Clock Service provides participants with the Exchange's time signal. The time signal provided by the Clock Service could be beneficial in multiple areas, one of

¹¹ Id.

¹² See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), [70 FR 37496, 37499](#) (June 29, 2005) (“Regulation NMS Adopting Release”).

which is enabling subscribers to more precisely measure latency between their network and that of the Exchange by utilizing technology that allows up to a sub-nanosecond level. The Clock Service will allow them to better understand the times at which their order or message reached certain points when traveling from their network to the Exchange through more granular latency measurements.

The Exchange believes the fee proposals for the Clock Service (including the ancillary fees) are reasonable as the Exchange is offering any market participants access to subscribe for the Clock Service in the market participant's sole discretion based on their unique business needs. Clock Service is optional for market participants to subscribe to if they believe it to be helpful and are not required for market participants to purchase in order to access the Exchange. Additionally, subscribers may cancel their usage of the Clock Service at any time.

As described above, the Exchange proposes to assess a monthly fee of \$7,500 for the Clock Service. This fee also includes a 1Gbps physical port. The Clock Service may be used for the Exchange and its affiliated equities and options exchanges (meaning a customer can receive this service for all eight Cboe exchanges). In comparison, as noted above, MIAX Emerald offers a comparable service- the High Precision Network Time Signal Service- at a fee of \$3,800/month, customers purchase their 1G physical connection separately, meaning that the total cost to use this service for MIAX Emerald only is \$5,300. While the Exchange notes its fee is higher than MIAX Emerald's, it is important to distinguish the fact that the fee of \$7,500 can be used to access this service for all eight exchanges.

In connection with the Clock Service, the Exchange also proposes two ancillary fees. The Exchange proposes to assess a fee for an optional, additional connection for participants. This is an additional Clock Service connection that includes a 1Gbps physical port for which participants may use as a back-up connection to receive the Exchange's time signal through the Clock Service. If a firm wanted to purchase the equivalent setup for MIAX Emerald, the total cost would be \$6,800 (\$5,300 + \$1,500). Again, while the Exchange notes that purchasing an optional, additional connection separately is higher (a total cost of \$10,000 when combined with the monthly fee of the Clock Service), the Exchange's Clock Service permits you to connect to all of Cboe's options and equities exchanges. Meaning, that for less than double the cost of MIAX Emerald's service, which is only for one Exchange, a participant is able to use the Exchange's Clock Service for eight Cboe exchanges.

Lastly, the Exchange believes the one-time ancillary fee of \$5,000 per connection for the HATI license set-up is appropriate. The Exchange proposes to charge a fee to participants to enable their connections for the Clock Service, if required. For participants that do not use Safran White Rabbit switches, a HATI license is required. Specifically, a participant that has a non-Safran White-Rabbit enabled device must have a HATI license in order to utilize the Clock Service. As such, the Exchange is providing the HATI license (and set-up) for \$5,000 per physical connection in order for a participant to be enabled to utilize the Clock Service.

The Exchange believes that the proposed free trial for any new Clock Service subscriber is reasonable because such users would not be subject to fees for the first 30 days of subscribing. The Exchange believes the proposed free trial is also reasonable as it

will give potential subscribers the ability to use and test Cboe Clock Service prior to subscribing for additional months and will therefore encourage and promote new users to purchase the Cboe Clock Service

The proposal would also not permit unfair discrimination as the proposed Clock Service is available to all market participants, who may opt to subscribe to the Clock Service and will help to protect a free and open market by continuing to provide additional services (offered on an optional basis for a fee) to the marketplace and by providing investors with greater choices. The Exchange believes that the proposed trial is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply equally to all new subscribers to the Clock Service. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees are reasonable and set at a level to compete with other exchanges that may choose to offer a similar service.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes the reports will contribute to robust competition among national securities exchanges. The Clock Service further enhances competition between exchanges by allowing the Exchange to expand its product offerings to include services similar to services that are currently offered by other exchanges.¹³

The Exchange also does not believe the proposed fees would cause any unnecessary or inappropriate burden on intermarket competition as other exchanges are free to introduce their own comparable offerings with lower prices to better compete with

¹³ See e.g., MIAX Emerald Rule 531.

the Exchange's offerings. The Exchange operates in a highly competitive environment, and its ability to price the reports is constrained by competition among exchanges who choose to adopt similar products. The Exchange must consider this in its pricing discipline in order to compete for subscribers of the Exchange's market data via the reports. For example, proposing fees that are excessively higher than fees for potentially similar offerings would simply serve to reduce demand for the Exchange's Clock Service, which as discussed, market participants are under no obligation to utilize. In this competitive environment, potential purchasers are free to choose which, if any, similar product to purchase to satisfy their need for market information. As a result, the Exchange believes this proposed rule change permits fair competition among national securities exchanges.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change would cause any unnecessary or inappropriate burden on intramarket competition. Particularly, the proposed fees apply uniformly to any purchaser in that the Exchange does not differentiate between the different participants that may purchase Clock Service.

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

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

Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

Item 7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) or Section 19(b)(7)(D)

(a) The proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁴ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)¹⁵ thereunder.

(b) The Exchange designates that the proposed rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”). At any time within 60 days of the filing of this proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Not applicable.

Item 8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

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

Item 9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

Item 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

Item 11. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.

Exhibit 5. Proposed rule text.

EXHIBIT 1**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2026-045]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Adopt Fees for its New Clock Service

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on [insert date], Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BZX”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the “Exchange” or “BZX Options”) proposes to adopt fees for its new Clock Service. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Commission’s website (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), the Exchange’s website (https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/bzx/), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis 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 aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend its fee schedule to adopt fees, including a free trial, for its new Clock Service offering, effective May 18, 2026. The Exchange recently adopted a new data product known as the Clock Service.³ The Clock Service is an optional product available to Members and non-Members alike. In sum, a subscriber is able to utilize the Clock Service to synchronize their time recording systems to those of the Exchange for correlated latency measurements between the Exchange's and the subscriber's systems time measurements related to the same message or order. Time synchronization services are well established in the U.S. and utilized in many areas of the U.S. economy and infrastructure. The Clock Service is not novel to the securities markets and it is similar to the network time synchronization service currently offered by MIAX Emerald, LLC ("MIAX Emerald").⁴ The Exchange is providing the Clock Service in response to participant demand for more precise and more accurate clock synchronization options with the Exchange's network.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 105215 (April 16, 2026), 91 FR 20515 (April 13, 2026) (SR-CboeBZX-2026-028).

⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 94915 (May 16, 2022), 87 FR 31022 (May 20, 2022) (SR-EMERALD-2022-16).

Under the Clock Service, participants would be able to synchronize their own primary clock devices to the Exchange’s primary clock device, by receiving White Rabbit time signals from the Exchange via a 1 gigabit per second (“Gbps”) Physical Port. The proposed Clock Service simply provides participants with the ability to synchronize with the Exchange’s time signal at a more granular level, and, as part of the Clock Service, participants will receive a single 1 Gbps Physical Port connection offered by the Exchange in order to receive the signal.⁵ The improved time signal would tell the participant the Exchange’s time at a more granular level at a particular point in time. The subscribing participant may then use that time signal to synchronize their own primary clock to the Exchange’s primary clock.

As part of the Clock Service, the Exchange proposes to adopt three fees. The first is for the Clock Service itself, while the two other fees are ancillary fees as part of the Clock Service, both of which are optional for subscribers of the Clock Service. The Exchange proposes a fee of \$7,500/month for the Clock Service itself. As part of the Clock Service fee, the Exchange shall provide a 1 Gbps physical port for the participant to use solely for receiving a signal from the Clock Service.⁶

The second fee the Exchange proposes is a redundant Clock Service connection – that includes a⁷ 1 Gbps physical port for a fee of \$2,500/month.⁸ The secondary

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connection is an optional offering that a subscriber may choose to purchase to supplement their existing Clock Service. This secondary connection can provide redundancy for a subscriber.

Lastly, the Exchange noted in its filing that customers will be required to procure licensing, as applicable. As such, the Exchange is also proposing a one-time High-Accuracy Timing IP Core (“HATI”) licensing set-up fee of \$5,000 for each physical connection.⁹The HATI license is for participants that do not use a White Rabbit-enabled Safran switch. For example, a firm that utilizes a non-Safran White-Rabbit enabled device must have a HATI license in order to utilize the Clock Service and would be liable for this one-time fee.¹⁰ The one-time fee is to enable the particular switch for White Rabbit so the firm may use its switch in connection with the Clock Service.

For a mid-month subscription, the monthly fee(s) shall be prorated based on the initial date of the subscription. For clarity, this does not apply to one-time setup fee for the HATI license.

In connection with the launch of Cboe Clock Service, the Exchange proposes to introduce a free trial for the first 30 days for new subscribers. The free trial shall only apply to the Cboe Clock Service fee and, if applicable, a subscriber shall still be liable for (i) the one-time HATI set-up fee per connection and (ii) any additional Clock Service connections. A first-time subscriber would be any subscriber that has not previously subscribed to Cboe Clock Service. The Exchange believes the proposed trial will serve as

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an incentive for new subscribers to try the proposed Clock Service to determine if it fits the subscriber's needs. Particularly, the Exchange believes it will give potential subscribers the ability to use and test the service before signing up for additional months.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.¹¹

Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)¹² requirements that the rules of an exchange be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)¹³ requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Particularly, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and recognized that current

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

¹³ Id.

regulation of the market system “has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies.”¹⁴ The Service provides subscribing participants with a tool to assist them in recalibrating their own models and trading strategies to improve their overall experience on the Exchange, thereby potentially improving execution and order fill rates. This may improve the Exchange's overall market quality through increased liquidity and improved execution opportunities for resting orders, enhancing the Exchange's overall competitive position. The proposed fees are a result of the competitive environment of the U.S. options industry as the Exchange seeks to adopt fees to attract purchasers of the recently introduced Clock Service.

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The Exchange believes the fee proposals for the Clock Service (including the ancillary fees) are reasonable as the Exchange is offering any market participants access to subscribe for the Clock Service in the market participant’s sole discretion based on their unique business needs. Clock Service is optional for market participants to subscribe

¹⁴ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), [70 FR 37496, 37499](#) (June 29, 2005) (“Regulation NMS Adopting Release”).

to if they believe it to be helpful and are not required for market participants to purchase in order to access the Exchange. Additionally, subscribers may cancel their usage of the Clock Service at any time.

As described above, the Exchange proposes to assess a monthly fee of \$7,500 for the Clock Service. This fee also includes a 1Gbps physical port. The Clock Service may be used for the Exchange and its affiliated equities and options exchanges (meaning a customer can receive this service for all eight Cboe exchanges). In comparison, as noted above, MIAX Emerald offers a comparable service- the High Precision Network Time Signal Service- at a fee of \$3,800/month, customers purchase their 1G physical connection separately, meaning that the total cost to use this service for MIAX Emerald only is \$5,300. While the Exchange notes its fee is higher than MIAX Emerald's, it is important to distinguish the fact that the fee of \$7,500 can be used to access this service for all eight exchanges.

In connection with the Clock Service, the Exchange also proposes two ancillary fees. The Exchange proposes to assess a fee for an optional, additional connection for participants. This is an additional Clock Service connection that includes a 1Gbps physical port for which participants may use as a back-up connection to receive the Exchange's time signal through the Clock Service. If a firm wanted to purchase the equivalent setup for MIAX Emerald, the total cost would be \$6,800 (\$5,300 + \$1,500). Again, while the Exchange notes that purchasing an optional, additional connection separately is higher (a total cost of \$10,000 when combined with the monthly fee of the Clock Service), the Exchange's Clock Service permits you to connect to all of Cboe's options and equities exchanges. Meaning, that for less than double the cost of MIAX

Emerald's service, which is only for one Exchange, a participant is able to use the Exchange's Clock Service for eight Cboe exchanges.

Lastly, the Exchange believes the one-time ancillary fee of \$5,000 per connection for the HATI license set-up is appropriate. The Exchange proposes to charge a fee to participants to enable their connections for the Clock Service, if required. For participants that do not use Safran White Rabbit switches, a HATI license is required. Specifically, a participant that has a non-Safran White-Rabbit enabled device must have a HATI license in order to utilize the Clock Service. As such, the Exchange is providing the HATI license (and set-up) for \$5,000 per physical connection in order for a participant to be enabled to utilize the Clock Service.

The Exchange believes that the proposed free trial for any new Clock Service subscriber is reasonable because such users would not be subject to fees for the first 30 days of subscribing. The Exchange believes the proposed free trial is also reasonable as it will give potential subscribers the ability to use and test Cboe Clock Service prior to subscribing for additional months and will therefore encourage and promote new users to purchase the Cboe Clock Service

The proposal would also not permit unfair discrimination as the proposed Clock Service is available to all market participants, who may opt to subscribe to the Clock Service and will help to protect a free and open market by continuing to provide additional services (offered on an optional basis for a fee) to the marketplace and by providing investors with greater choices. The Exchange believes that the proposed trial is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply equally to all new subscribers to the Clock Service. As such, the Exchange believes that the proposed fees

are reasonable and set at a level to compete with other exchanges that may choose to offer a similar service.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes the reports will contribute to robust competition among national securities exchanges. The Clock Service further enhances competition between exchanges by allowing the Exchange to expand its product offerings to include services similar to services that are currently offered by other exchanges.¹⁵

The Exchange also does not believe the proposed fees would cause any unnecessary or inappropriate burden on intermarket competition as other exchanges are free to introduce their own comparable offerings with lower prices to better compete with the Exchange's offerings. The Exchange operates in a highly competitive environment, and its ability to price the reports is constrained by competition among exchanges who choose to adopt similar products. The Exchange must consider this in its pricing discipline in order to compete for subscribers of the Exchange's market data via the reports. For example, proposing fees that are excessively higher than fees for potentially similar offerings would simply serve to reduce demand for the Exchange's Clock Service, which as discussed, market participants are under no obligation to utilize. In this competitive environment, potential purchasers are free to choose which, if any, similar product to purchase to satisfy their need for market information. As a result, the

¹⁵ See e.g., MIAX Emerald Rule 531.

Exchange believes this proposed rule change permits fair competition among national securities exchanges.

The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change would cause any unnecessary or inappropriate burden on intramarket competition. Particularly, the proposed fees apply uniformly to any purchaser in that the Exchange does not differentiate between the different participants that may purchase Clock Service.

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

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

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁶ and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4¹⁷ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

IV. Solicitation of Comments

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

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's internet comment form (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include file number SR-CboeBZX-2026-045 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeBZX-2026-045. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 (<https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeBZX-2026-045 and should be submitted

on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE
FEDERAL REGISTER].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to
delegated authority.¹⁸

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

¹⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

(additions are underlined; deletions are [bracketed])

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Cboe U.S. Options Fee Schedules**BZX Options****Effective May [1]18, 2026**

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Cboe Timestamping Service*

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*Mid-Month Subscriptions. For the initial month of the Timestamping Service, the service(s) shall be prorated for the month based on the initial date of the subscription.

Cboe Clock Service

<u>Cboe Clock Service Subscription</u>	<u>\$7,500/month</u>
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<u>Additional Cboe Clock Service Connection</u>	<u>\$2,500/month</u>
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<u>High-Accuracy Timing IP Core (HATI) Set-Up Fee per Physical Port Connection</u>	<u>\$5,000/per connection</u>
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Mid-Month Subscriptions. For a mid-month subscription for Cboe Clock Service, the service(s) shall be prorated for the month based on the initial date of the subscription. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not include the per connection HATI set-up fee.

Trial Period. First-time subscribers to Cboe Clock Service are eligible for a free trial and will not be charged the \$7,500 monthly subscription fee for the first 30 days. For clarity, only the Cboe Clock Service fee is eligible for the free trial, and, if applicable, a subscriber shall still be liable for (i) the one-time HATI set-up fee per connection and (ii) any additional Clock Service connections. A first-time subscriber would be any subscriber that has not previously subscribed to Cboe Clock Service.

Cboe LiveVol, LLC Market Data Fees

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