

1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² MEMX LLC (“MEMX” or the “Exchange”) is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) a proposed rule change to amend the Exchange’s fee schedule applicable to Members³ (the “Fee Schedule”) pursuant to Exchange Rules 15.1(a) and (c). The Exchange proposes to implement the changes to the Fee Schedule pursuant to this proposal immediately.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is provided as Exhibit 1. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by Exchange staff pursuant to authority delegated to it by the Board of Directors of the Exchange (the “Board”). Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change.

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

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¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Exchange Rule 1.5(p).

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

a. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend the Fee Schedule to: (i) modify the required criteria under Liquidity Provision Tier 2; and (ii) modify the Cross Asset Tiers by eliminating Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2 and renaming the current Cross Asset Tier 3 as Cross Asset Tier 1, as further described below.

The Exchange first 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. More specifically, the Exchange is only one of 16 registered equities exchanges, as well as a number of alternative trading systems and other off-exchange venues, to which market participants may direct their order flow. Based on publicly available information, no single registered equities exchange currently has more than approximately 14% of the total market share of executed volume of equities trading.⁴ Thus, in such a low-concentrated and highly competitive market, no single equities exchange possesses significant pricing power in the execution of order flow, and the Exchange currently represents approximately 2% of the overall market share.⁵ The Exchange in particular operates a "Maker-Taker" model whereby it provides rebates to Members that add liquidity to the Exchange and charges fees to Members that remove liquidity from the Exchange. The Fee Schedule sets forth the standard rebates and fees applied per share for orders that add and remove liquidity, respectively. Additionally, in response to the

⁴ Market share percentage calculated as of October 30, 2024. The Exchange receives and processes data made available through consolidated data feeds (i.e., CTS and UTDF).

⁵ Id.

competitive environment, the Exchange also offers tiered pricing, which provides Members with opportunities to qualify for higher rebates or lower fees where certain volume criteria and thresholds are met. Tiered pricing provides an incremental incentive for Members to strive for higher tier levels, which provides increasingly higher benefits or discounts for satisfying increasingly more stringent criteria.

Liquidity Provision Tier 2

The Exchange currently provides a standard rebate of \$0.0015 per share for executions of orders in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share that add displayed liquidity to the Exchange (such orders, “Added Displayed Volume”).⁶ The Exchange also currently offers Liquidity Provision Tiers 1-5, among other volume-based tiers, under which a Member may receive an enhanced rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume by achieving the corresponding required volume criteria for each such tier. The Exchange now proposes to modify the required criteria under Liquidity Provision Tier 2,⁷ as further described below.

The Exchange currently provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0032 per share for executions of Added Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for Liquidity Provision

⁶ The base rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume is referred to by the Exchange on the Fee Schedule under the existing description “Added displayed volume” with a Fee Code of “B”, “D” or “J”, as applicable, on execution reports.

⁷ The pricing for Liquidity Provision Tier 2 is referred to by the Exchange on the Fee Schedule under the existing description “Added displayed volume, Liquidity Provision Tier 2” with a Fee Code of “B2”, “D2”, or “J2”, as applicable, to be provided by the Exchange on the monthly invoices provided to Members.

Tier 2 by achieving (1) an ADAV⁸ that is equal to or greater than 0.20% of the TCV⁹ in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share and an ADV¹⁰ that is equal to or greater than 0.40% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share; or (2) a Step-Up ADAV¹¹ from June 2024 (excluding Retail Orders) that is equal to or greater than 0.05% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share and an ADAV (excluding Retail Orders) that is equal to or greater than 0.20% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share; or (3) an ADAV that is equal to or greater than 0.30% of the TCV. Now, the Exchange proposes to modify alternative criteria (1) of Liquidity Provision Tier 2, such that a Member may qualify for such alternative criteria (1) by achieving an ADAV that is equal to or greater than 0.20% of the TCV and an ADV that is equal to or greater than 0.50% of the TCV. Thus, the Exchange is proposing to keep the existing alternative criteria (2) and (3) intact without changes while modifying the current alternative criteria (1) such that the TCV calculation includes all securities, not just those priced at or above \$1.00 per share, and the ADV requirement in the second half of the criteria is increased from 0.40% of the TCV to 0.50% of the TCV. The Exchange is not proposing to change the rebate provided under Liquidity Provision Tier 2.

The tiered pricing structure for executions of Added Displayed Volume under the Liquidity Provision Tiers provides an incremental incentive for Members to strive for

⁸ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “ADAV” means the average daily added volume calculated as the number of shares added per day, which is calculated on a monthly basis, and “Displayed ADAV” means ADAV with respect to displayed orders.

⁹ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “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.

¹⁰ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “ADV” means average daily volume calculated as the number of shares added or removed, combined, per day, which is calculated on a monthly basis.

¹¹ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “Step-Up ADAV” means ADAV in the relevant baseline month subtracted from current ADAV.

higher volume thresholds to receive higher enhanced rebates for such executions and, as such, is intended to encourage Members to maintain or increase their order flow, primarily in the form of liquidity-adding volume, to the Exchange, thereby contributing to a deeper and more liquid market to the benefit of all Members and market participants. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes to Liquidity Provision Tier 2 reflect a reasonable and competitive pricing structure that is right-sized and consistent with the Exchange's overall pricing philosophy of encouraging added and/or displayed liquidity. Specifically, the Exchange believes that, after giving effect to the proposed changes described above, the rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume provided under Liquidity Provision Tier 2 remains commensurate with the corresponding required criteria under each such tier and is reasonably related to the market quality benefits that such tier is designed to achieve.

Cross Asset Tiers

The Exchange currently offers Cross Asset Tiers 1-3 under which a Member may receive an enhanced rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share by achieving the corresponding required volume criteria for such tier on the Exchange's equity options platform, MEMX Options. The Exchange now proposes to modify the Cross Asset Tiers by eliminating Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2 and renaming the current Cross Asset Tier 3 to become Cross Asset Tier 1.

With respect to the current Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2, under Cross Asset Tier 1, the Exchange provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0033 per share for executions of Added Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for such tier by achieving an Options

ADAV¹² in the Market Maker¹³ capacity that is equal to or greater than 250,000 contracts on MEMX Options and an ADAV on MEMX Equities that is equal to or greater than 0.30% of the TCV. Under the current Cross Asset Tier 2, the Exchange provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0027 per share for executions of Added Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for such tier by achieving an Options ADAV in the Market Maker capacity that is equal to or greater than 125,000 contracts on MEMX Options. The Exchange now proposes to eliminate Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2, as the Exchange no longer wishes to, nor is it required to, maintain such tiers.

With respect to the current Cross Asset Tier 3, the Exchange currently provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0026 per share for executions of Added Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for such tier by achieving an Options ADAV in the Customer¹⁴ and/ or Professional¹⁵ capacity that is equal to or greater than 20,000 contracts on MEMX Options. The Exchange is not proposing to change the rebate provided or the required criteria under this tier, however, given the elimination of Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2, the Exchange is proposing to re-number the current Cross Asset Tier 3 as Cross Asset Tier 1.¹⁶

¹² As set forth on the Fee Schedule, a Member's "Options ADAV" for purposes of equities pricing means the average daily added volume calculated as a number of contracts added on MEMX Options per day by the Member, which is calculated on a monthly basis.

¹³ As set forth on the MEMX Options Fee Schedule, "Market Maker" applies to any order for the account of a registered Market Maker. "Market Maker" shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 16.1 of the MEMX Rulebook.

¹⁴ As set forth on the MEMX Options Fee Schedule, "Customer" applies to any order for the account of a Priority Customer. Priority Customer shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 16.1 of the MEMX Rulebook.

¹⁵ As set forth on the MEMX Options Fee Schedule, "Professional" applies to any order for the account of a Professional.

¹⁶ Currently, as noted on the Fee Schedule, Members that qualify for Cross Asset Tier 3 based on activity in a given month will also receive that associated Cross Asset Tier 3 rebate during the

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,¹⁷ in general, and with Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁸ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

As discussed above, the Exchange operates in a highly fragmented and 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, and the Exchange represents only a small percentage of the overall market. The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and also 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.”¹⁹

The Exchange believes that the ever-shifting market share among the exchanges from month to month demonstrates that market participants can shift order flow or

following month. Given the Exchange is proposing to re-name this tier Cross Asset Tier 1 and leave it otherwise unchanged, it will update the note under the table to read: “Members that qualify for Cross Asset Tier 1 based on activity in a given month will also receive that associated Cross Asset Tier 1 rebate during the following month.”

¹⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

¹⁹ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005).

discontinue to reduce use of certain categories of products, in response to new or different pricing structures being introduced into the market. Accordingly, competitive forces constrain the Exchange's transaction fees and rebates, and market participants can readily trade on competing venues if they deem pricing levels at those other venues to be more favorable. The Exchange believes the proposal reflects a reasonable and competitive pricing structure designed to encourage market participants to strive for higher volume on the Exchange, which the Exchange believes would promote price discovery and enhance liquidity and market quality on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members and market participants.

The Exchange notes that volume-based incentives (such as Liquidity Provision Tiers and Cross Asset Tiers) have been widely adopted by exchanges (including the Exchange), and are reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory because they are open to all members on an equal basis and provide additional benefits or discount that are reasonably related to the value to an exchange's market quality associated with higher levels of market activity, such as higher levels of liquidity provision and/or growth patterns, and the introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery process. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes to the required criteria under Liquidity Provision Tier 2 are reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because, as described above, such changes are available to all Members on an equal basis, and, are designed to encourage Members to maintain or increase their order flow, including in the form of displayed, liquidity-adding, orders to the Exchange in order to qualify for an enhanced rebate, as applicable, thereby contributing to a deeper, more liquid and well balanced market ecosystem on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members and market participants.

The Exchange believes the proposed change to eliminate Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2 and renumber the existing Cross Asset Tier 3 to Cross Asset Tier 1 is reasonable because, as noted above, the Exchange is not required to maintain such tiers and the opportunity to qualify for the former Cross Asset Tier 3, now Cross Asset Tier 1, continues to be equally available to all Members, and continues to provide Members with an incremental incentive to achieve certain volume thresholds on the Exchange and on MEMX Options, thereby contributing to a deeper, more liquid and well balanced market ecosystem on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members and market participants.

For the reasons discussed above, the Exchange submits that the proposal satisfies the requirements of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act²⁰ in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities and is not designed to unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. As described more fully below in the Exchange's statement regarding the burden on competition, the Exchange believes that its transaction pricing is subject to significant competitive forces, and that the proposed fees and rebates described herein are appropriate to address such forces.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposal will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. Instead, as discussed above, the proposal is intended to incentivize market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange, which the Exchange believes would promote price discovery and enhance liquidity and market quality on the Exchange to the

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

benefit of all Members and market participants. As a result, the Exchange believes the proposal would enhance its competitiveness as a market that attracts actionable orders, thereby making it a more desirable destination venue for its customers. For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal furthers the Commission's goal in adopting Regulation NMS of fostering competition among orders, which promotes "more efficient pricing of individual stocks for all types of orders, large and small."²¹

Intramarket Competition

As discussed above, the Exchange believes that the proposal would maintain a tiered pricing structure that is still consistent with the Exchange's overall pricing philosophy of encouraging added and/or displayed liquidity and would incentivize market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange through volume-based tiers, thereby enhancing liquidity and market quality on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members, as well as enhancing the attractiveness of the Exchange as a trading venue, which the Exchange believes, in turn, would continue to encourage market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange. Greater liquidity benefits all Members by providing more trading opportunities and encourages Members to send additional orders to the Exchange, thereby contributing to robust levels of liquidity, which benefits all market participants.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes would impose any burden on intramarket competition because such changes will incentivize members to submit additional order flow, thereby contributing to a more robust and well-balanced market ecosystem on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members as well as enhancing the

²¹ See supra note 19.

attractiveness of the Exchange as a trading venue, which the Exchange believes, in turn, would continue to encourage market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange. Greater liquidity benefits all Members by providing more trading opportunities and encourages Members to send additional orders to the Exchange, thereby contributing to robust levels of liquidity, which benefits all market participants. The opportunity to qualify for the modified Liquidity Provision Tier 2 and re-numbered Cross Asset Tier 1, and thus receive the corresponding enhanced rebates, as applicable, would be available to all Members that meet the associated volume requirements in any month. As described above, the Exchange believes that the required criteria under each such tier are commensurate with the corresponding rebate under such tier and are reasonably related to the enhanced liquidity and market quality that such tier is designed to promote. For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed changes would not impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Intermarket Competition

As noted above, the Exchange 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. Members have numerous alternative venues that they may participate on and direct their order flow to, including 15 other equities exchanges and numerous alternative trading systems and other off-exchange venues. As noted above, no single registered equities exchange currently has more than approximately 14% of the total market share of executed volume of equities trading. Thus, in such a low-concentrated and highly competitive market, no single equities exchange possesses significant pricing power in the execution of order

flow. Moreover, the Exchange believes that the ever-shifting market share among the exchanges from month to month demonstrates that market participants can shift order flow or discontinue to reduce use of certain categories of products, in response to new or different pricing structures being introduced into the market. Accordingly, competitive forces constrain the Exchange's transaction fees and rebates and market participants can readily choose to send their orders to other exchange and off-exchange venues if they deem fee levels at those other venues to be more favorable. As described above, the proposed changes represent a competitive proposal through which the Exchange is seeking to incentivize market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange through volume-based tiers, which have been widely adopted by exchanges, including the Exchange. Accordingly, the Exchange believes the proposal would not burden, but rather promote, intermarket competition by enabling it to better compete with other exchanges that offer similar pricing structures and incentives to market participants.

Additionally, the Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Specifically, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, 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."²² The fact that this market is competitive has also long been recognized by the courts. In NetCoalition v. SEC, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: "[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is 'fierce.' ... As the SEC explained,

²² See supra note 19.

‘[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution’; [and] ‘no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted’ because ‘no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers’....”²³ Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe its proposed pricing changes impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

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

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,²⁴ the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the self-regulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the self-regulatory organization, 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

²³ NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSE-2006-21)).

²⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.²⁵

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Form of Notice of the Proposed Rule Change for Publication in the Federal Register.

Exhibit 5. Text of Proposed Fee Schedule.

²⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2)(B).

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-MEMX-2024-44]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; MEMX LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Exchange's Fee Schedule

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], MEMX LLC ("MEMX" or the "Exchange") 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

The Exchange is filing with the Commission a proposed rule change to amend the Exchange's fee schedule applicable to Members³ (the "Fee Schedule") pursuant to Exchange Rules 15.1(a) and (c). The Exchange proposes to implement the changes to the Fee Schedule pursuant to this proposal immediately. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Exchange Rule 1.5(p).

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 purpose of the proposed rule change is to amend the Fee Schedule to: (i) modify the required criteria under Liquidity Provision Tier 2; and (ii) modify the Cross Asset Tiers by eliminating Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2 and renaming the current Cross Asset Tier 3 as Cross Asset Tier 1, as further described below.

The Exchange first 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. More specifically, the Exchange is only one of 16 registered equities exchanges, as well as a number of alternative trading systems and other off-exchange venues, to which market participants may direct their order flow. Based on publicly available information, no single registered equities exchange currently has more than approximately 14% of the total market share of executed volume of equities trading.⁴ Thus, in such a low-concentrated and highly competitive market, no single equities exchange possesses significant pricing power in the execution of order flow, and the Exchange currently represents approximately 2% of the overall market share.⁵ The Exchange in particular

⁴ Market share percentage calculated as of October 30, 2024. The Exchange receives and processes data made available through consolidated data feeds (i.e., CTS and UTDF).

⁵ Id.

operates a “Maker-Taker” model whereby it provides rebates to Members that add liquidity to the Exchange and charges fees to Members that remove liquidity from the Exchange. The Fee Schedule sets forth the standard rebates and fees applied per share for orders that add and remove liquidity, respectively. Additionally, in response to the competitive environment, the Exchange also offers tiered pricing, which provides Members with opportunities to qualify for higher rebates or lower fees where certain volume criteria and thresholds are met. Tiered pricing provides an incremental incentive for Members to strive for higher tier levels, which provides increasingly higher benefits or discounts for satisfying increasingly more stringent criteria.

Liquidity Provision Tier 2

The Exchange currently provides a standard rebate of \$0.0015 per share for executions of orders in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share that add displayed liquidity to the Exchange (such orders, “Added Displayed Volume”).⁶ The Exchange also currently offers Liquidity Provision Tiers 1-5, among other volume-based tiers, under which a Member may receive an enhanced rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume by achieving the corresponding required volume criteria for each such tier. The Exchange now proposes to modify the required criteria under Liquidity Provision Tier 2,⁷ as further described below.

The Exchange currently provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0032 per share for

⁶ The base rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume is referred to by the Exchange on the Fee Schedule under the existing description “Added displayed volume” with a Fee Code of “B”, “D” or “J”, as applicable, on execution reports.

⁷ The pricing for Liquidity Provision Tier 2 is referred to by the Exchange on the Fee Schedule under the existing description “Added displayed volume, Liquidity Provision Tier 2” with a Fee Code of “B2”, “D2”, or “J2”, as applicable, to be provided by the Exchange on the monthly invoices provided to Members.

executions of Added Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for Liquidity Provision Tier 2 by achieving (1) an ADAV⁸ that is equal to or greater than 0.20% of the TCV⁹ in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share and an ADV¹⁰ that is equal to or greater than 0.40% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share; or (2) a Step-Up ADAV¹¹ from June 2024 (excluding Retail Orders) that is equal to or greater than 0.05% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share and an ADAV (excluding Retail Orders) that is equal to or greater than 0.20% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share; or (3) an ADAV that is equal to or greater than 0.30% of the TCV. Now, the Exchange proposes to modify alternative criteria (1) of Liquidity Provision Tier 2, such that a Member may qualify for such alternative criteria (1) by achieving an ADAV that is equal to or greater than 0.20% of the TCV and an ADV that is equal to or greater than 0.50% of the TCV. Thus, the Exchange is proposing to keep the existing alternative criteria (2) and (3) intact without changes while modifying the current alternative criteria (1) such that the TCV calculation includes all securities, not just those priced at or above \$1.00 per share, and the ADV requirement in the second half of the criteria is increased from 0.40% of the TCV to 0.50% of the TCV. The Exchange is not proposing to change the rebate provided under Liquidity Provision Tier 2.

⁸ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “ADAV” means the average daily added volume calculated as the number of shares added per day, which is calculated on a monthly basis, and “Displayed ADAV” means ADAV with respect to displayed orders.

⁹ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “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.

¹⁰ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “ADV” means average daily volume calculated as the number of shares added or removed, combined, per day, which is calculated on a monthly basis.

¹¹ As set forth on the Fee Schedule, “Step-Up ADAV” means ADAV in the relevant baseline month subtracted from current ADAV.

The tiered pricing structure for executions of Added Displayed Volume under the Liquidity Provision Tiers provides an incremental incentive for Members to strive for higher volume thresholds to receive higher enhanced rebates for such executions and, as such, is intended to encourage Members to maintain or increase their order flow, primarily in the form of liquidity-adding volume, to the Exchange, thereby contributing to a deeper and more liquid market to the benefit of all Members and market participants. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes to Liquidity Provision Tier 2 reflect a reasonable and competitive pricing structure that is right-sized and consistent with the Exchange's overall pricing philosophy of encouraging added and/or displayed liquidity. Specifically, the Exchange believes that, after giving effect to the proposed changes described above, the rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume provided under Liquidity Provision Tier 2 remains commensurate with the corresponding required criteria under each such tier and is reasonably related to the market quality benefits that such tier is designed to achieve.

Cross Asset Tiers

The Exchange currently offers Cross Asset Tiers 1-3 under which a Member may receive an enhanced rebate for executions of Added Displayed Volume in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share by achieving the corresponding required volume criteria for such tier on the Exchange's equity options platform, MEMX Options. The Exchange now proposes to modify the Cross Asset Tiers by eliminating Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2 and renaming the current Cross Asset Tier 3 to become Cross Asset Tier 1.

With respect to the current Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2, under Cross Asset Tier 1, the Exchange provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0033 per share for executions of Added

Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for such tier by achieving an Options ADAV¹² in the Market Maker¹³ capacity that is equal to or greater than 250,000 contracts on MEMX Options and an ADAV on MEMX Equities that is equal to or greater than 0.30% of the TCV. Under the current Cross Asset Tier 2, the Exchange provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0027 per share for executions of Added Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for such tier by achieving an Options ADAV in the Market Maker capacity that is equal to or greater than 125,000 contracts on MEMX Options. The Exchange now proposes to eliminate Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2, as the Exchange no longer wishes to, nor is it required to, maintain such tiers.

With respect to the current Cross Asset Tier 3, the Exchange currently provides an enhanced rebate of \$0.0026 per share for executions of Added Displayed Volume for Members that qualify for such tier by achieving an Options ADAV in the Customer¹⁴ and/ or Professional¹⁵ capacity that is equal to or greater than 20,000 contracts on MEMX Options. The Exchange is not proposing to change the rebate provided or the required criteria under this tier, however, given the elimination of Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2, the Exchange is proposing to re-number the current Cross Asset Tier 3 as Cross Asset Tier

¹² As set forth on the Fee Schedule, a Member's "Options ADAV" for purposes of equities pricing means the average daily added volume calculated as a number of contracts added on MEMX Options per day by the Member, which is calculated on a monthly basis.

¹³ As set forth on the MEMX Options Fee Schedule, "Market Maker" applies to any order for the account of a registered Market Maker. "Market Maker" shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 16.1 of the MEMX Rulebook.

¹⁴ As set forth on the MEMX Options Fee Schedule, "Customer" applies to any order for the account of a Priority Customer. Priority Customer shall have the meaning set forth in Rule 16.1 of the MEMX Rulebook.

¹⁵ As set forth on the MEMX Options Fee Schedule, "Professional" applies to any order for the account of a Professional.

1.¹⁶

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,¹⁷ in general, and with Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁸ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

As discussed above, the Exchange operates in a highly fragmented and 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, and the Exchange represents only a small percentage of the overall market. The Commission and the courts have repeatedly expressed their preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. In Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and also 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.”¹⁹

¹⁶ Currently, as noted on the Fee Schedule, Members that qualify for Cross Asset Tier 3 based on activity in a given month will also receive that associated Cross Asset Tier 3 rebate during the following month. Given the Exchange is proposing to re-name this tier Cross Asset Tier 1 and leave it otherwise unchanged, it will update the note under the table to read: “Members that qualify for Cross Asset Tier 1 based on activity in a given month will also receive that associated Cross Asset Tier 1 rebate during the following month.”

¹⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

¹⁹ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005).

The Exchange believes that the ever-shifting market share among the exchanges from month to month demonstrates that market participants can shift order flow or discontinue to reduce use of certain categories of products, in response to new or different pricing structures being introduced into the market. Accordingly, competitive forces constrain the Exchange's transaction fees and rebates, and market participants can readily trade on competing venues if they deem pricing levels at those other venues to be more favorable. The Exchange believes the proposal reflects a reasonable and competitive pricing structure designed to encourage market participants to strive for higher volume on the Exchange, which the Exchange believes would promote price discovery and enhance liquidity and market quality on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members and market participants.

The Exchange notes that volume-based incentives (such as Liquidity Provision Tiers and Cross Asset Tiers) have been widely adopted by exchanges (including the Exchange), and are reasonable, equitable, and not unfairly discriminatory because they are open to all members on an equal basis and provide additional benefits or discount that are reasonably related to the value to an exchange's market quality associated with higher levels of market activity, such as higher levels of liquidity provision and/or growth patterns, and the introduction of higher volumes of orders into the price and volume discovery process. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes to the required criteria under Liquidity Provision Tier 2 are reasonable, equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because, as described above, such changes are available to all Members on an equal basis, and, are designed to encourage Members to maintain or increase their order flow, including in the form of displayed, liquidity-adding, orders to the Exchange in

order to qualify for an enhanced rebate, as applicable, thereby contributing to a deeper, more liquid and well balanced market ecosystem on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members and market participants.

The Exchange believes the proposed change to eliminate Cross Asset Tiers 1 and 2 and renumber the existing Cross Asset Tier 3 to Cross Asset Tier 1 is reasonable because, as noted above, the Exchange is not required to maintain such tiers and the opportunity to qualify for the former Cross Asset Tier 3, now Cross Asset Tier 1, continues to be equally available to all Members, and continues to provide Members with an incremental incentive to achieve certain volume thresholds on the Exchange and on MEMX Options, thereby contributing to a deeper, more liquid and well balanced market ecosystem on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members and market participants.

For the reasons discussed above, the Exchange submits that the proposal satisfies the requirements of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act²⁰ in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among its Members and other persons using its facilities and is not designed to unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. As described more fully below in the Exchange's statement regarding the burden on competition, the Exchange believes that its transaction pricing is subject to significant competitive forces, and that the proposed fees and rebates described herein are appropriate to address such forces.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposal will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

Instead, as discussed above, the proposal is intended to incentivize market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange, which the Exchange believes would promote price discovery and enhance liquidity and market quality on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members and market participants. As a result, the Exchange believes the proposal would enhance its competitiveness as a market that attracts actionable orders, thereby making it a more desirable destination venue for its customers. For these reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposal furthers the Commission's goal in adopting Regulation NMS of fostering competition among orders, which promotes "more efficient pricing of individual stocks for all types of orders, large and small."²¹

Intramarket Competition

As discussed above, the Exchange believes that the proposal would maintain a tiered pricing structure that is still consistent with the Exchange's overall pricing philosophy of encouraging added and/or displayed liquidity and would incentivize market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange through volume-based tiers, thereby enhancing liquidity and market quality on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members, as well as enhancing the attractiveness of the Exchange as a trading venue, which the Exchange believes, in turn, would continue to encourage market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange. Greater liquidity benefits all Members by providing more trading opportunities and encourages Members to send additional orders to the Exchange, thereby contributing to robust levels of liquidity, which benefits all market participants.

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes would impose any

²¹ See supra note 19.

burden on intramarket competition because such changes will incentivize members to submit additional order flow, thereby contributing to a more robust and well-balanced market ecosystem on the Exchange to the benefit of all Members as well as enhancing the attractiveness of the Exchange as a trading venue, which the Exchange believes, in turn, would continue to encourage market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange. Greater liquidity benefits all Members by providing more trading opportunities and encourages Members to send additional orders to the Exchange, thereby contributing to robust levels of liquidity, which benefits all market participants. The opportunity to qualify for the modified Liquidity Provision Tier 2 and re-numbered Cross Asset Tier 1, and thus receive the corresponding enhanced rebates, as applicable, would be available to all Members that meet the associated volume requirements in any month. As described above, the Exchange believes that the required criteria under each such tier are commensurate with the corresponding rebate under such tier and are reasonably related to the enhanced liquidity and market quality that such tier is designed to promote. For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes the proposed changes would not impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

Intermarket Competition

As noted above, the Exchange 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. Members have numerous alternative venues that they may participate on and direct their order flow to, including 15 other equities exchanges and numerous alternative trading systems and

other off-exchange venues. As noted above, no single registered equities exchange currently has more than approximately 14% of the total market share of executed volume of equities trading. Thus, in such a low-concentrated and highly competitive market, no single equities exchange possesses significant pricing power in the execution of order flow. Moreover, the Exchange believes that the ever-shifting market share among the exchanges from month to month demonstrates that market participants can shift order flow or discontinue to reduce use of certain categories of products, in response to new or different pricing structures being introduced into the market. Accordingly, competitive forces constrain the Exchange's transaction fees and rebates and market participants can readily choose to send their orders to other exchange and off-exchange venues if they deem fee levels at those other venues to be more favorable. As described above, the proposed changes represent a competitive proposal through which the Exchange is seeking to incentivize market participants to direct additional order flow to the Exchange through volume-based tiers, which have been widely adopted by exchanges, including the Exchange. Accordingly, the Exchange believes the proposal would not burden, but rather promote, intermarket competition by enabling it to better compete with other exchanges that offer similar pricing structures and incentives to market participants.

Additionally, the Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Specifically, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, 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.”²² The fact that this market is competitive has also long been recognized by the courts. In NetCoalition v. SEC, the D.C. Circuit stated as follows: “[n]o one disputes that competition for order flow is ‘fierce.’ ... As the SEC explained, ‘[i]n the U.S. national market system, buyers and sellers of securities, and the broker-dealers that act as their order-routing agents, have a wide range of choices of where to route orders for execution’; [and] ‘no exchange can afford to take its market share percentages for granted’ because ‘no exchange possesses a monopoly, regulatory or otherwise, in the execution of order flow from broker dealers’”²³ Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe its proposed pricing changes impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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)(ii) of the Act²⁴ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)²⁵ 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

²² See supra note 19.

²³ NetCoalition v. SEC, 615 F.3d 525, 539 (D.C. Cir. 2010) (quoting Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59039 (December 2, 2008), 73 FR 74770, 74782-83 (December 9, 2008) (SR-NYSE-2006-21)).

²⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

²⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

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-MEMX-2024-44 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-MEMX-2024-44. 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 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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also 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-MEMX-2024-44 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.²⁶

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

²⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Exhibit 5

Proposed new language is underlined; Proposed deletions are in [brackets].

**MEMX Equities Fee Schedule
(EFFECTIVE [OCTOBER]NOVEMBER 1, 2024)**

Transaction Fees

MEMX Members are charged per share fees or provided per share rebates based on shares executed within each of the fee code categories below.

Fee Code	Description	Fee/(Rebate) - Securities at or above \$1.00 ("A")	Fee/(Rebate) - Securities below \$1.00 ("B")
B, D, J or I*	Added displayed volume	\$(0.0015)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
B1, D1, J1 or I1	Added displayed volume, Liquidity Provision Tier 1	\$(0.0034)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
B2, D2, J2 or I2	Added displayed volume, Liquidity Provision Tier 2	\$(0.0032)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
B3, D3, J3 or I3	Added displayed volume, Liquidity Provision Tier 3	\$(0.0030)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
B4, D4, J4 or I4	Added displayed volume, Liquidity Provision Tier 4	\$(0.0029)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
B5, D5, J5 or I5	Added displayed volume, Liquidity Provision Tier 5	\$(0.0025)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
Bq1, Dq1, Jq1 or Iq1	Added displayed volume, DLI Tier 1	\$(0.0034)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
Bq2, Dq2, Jq2 or Iq2	Added displayed volume, DLI Tier 2	\$(0.0026)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
Br, Dr or Jr	Added displayed volume, Retail Order	\$(0.0034)	(0.15% of total dollar value)

Br1, Dr1 or Jr1	Added displayed volume, Retail Tier 1	\$(0.0037)	(0.15% of total dollar value)
[BO1, DO1, JO1 or IO1	Added displayed volume, Cross Asset Tier 1	\$(0.0033)	(0.075% of total dollar value)]
[BO2, DO2, JO2 or IO2	Added displayed volume, Cross Asset Tier 2	\$(0.0027)	(0.075% of total dollar value)]
BO ₁ [3], DO ₁ [3], JO ₁ [3] or IO ₁ [3]	Added displayed volume, Cross Asset Tier 1[3]	\$(0.0026)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
P	Added volume, order subject to Display-Price Sliding that receives price improvement when executed	\$(0.0008)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
H	Added non-displayed volume	\$(0.0008)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
M	Added non-displayed volume, Midpoint Peg	\$(0.0008)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
H1, M1, P1	Added non-displayed volume, Non-Display Add Tier 1	\$(0.0028)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
H2, M2, P2	Added non-displayed volume, Non-Display Add Tier 2	\$(0.0025)	(0.075% of total dollar value)
R	Removed volume from MEMX Book	\$0.0030	0.28% of total dollar value
R1	Removed volume from MEMX Book, Liquidity Removal Tier 1	\$0.0029	0.28% of total dollar value
RrA	Removed volume from MEMX Book, Retail Order	\$0.0028	0.28% of total dollar value
Rr0	Removed volume from MEMX Book upon entry, Retail Order (Day/GTT/RHO)	Free	Free
Z	Routed to another market, removed liquidity	\$0.0030	0.30% of total dollar value

*Fee Code B includes orders, other than Retail Orders, that establish the NBBO. Fee Code D includes orders, other than Retail Orders, that add displayed liquidity to the Exchange but do not establish or join the NBBO. Fee Code J includes orders, other than Retail Orders, that establish a new BBO on the Exchange that matches the NBBO first established on an away market. Fee Code I is assigned to a Member's "P" orders if that Member meets the criteria under Display-Price Sliding Tier 1.

* * * * *

Liquidity Provision Tiers

Tier	Rebate Per Share	Required Criteria
Tier 1	\$(0.0034)	(1) Member has an ADAV (excluding Retail Orders) \geq 0.40% of the TCV; or (2) Member has an ADAV \geq 0.30% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share and a Non-Displayed ADAV \geq 6,000,000 shares
Tier 2	\$(0.0032)	(1) Member has an ADAV \geq 0.20% of the TCV [in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share] and an ADV \geq 0.[4]50% of the TCV[in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share]; or (2) Member has a Step-Up ADAV from June 2024 (excluding Retail Orders) \geq 0.05% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share and an ADAV (excluding Retail Orders) \geq 0.20% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share*; or (3) Member has an ADAV \geq 0.30% of the TCV
Tier 3	\$(0.0030)	(1) Member has an ADAV \geq 0.20% of the TCV in securities priced at or above \$1.00 per share; or (2) Member has an ADAV \geq 0.175% of the TCV
Tier 4	\$(0.0029)	Member has an ADAV (excluding Retail Orders) \geq 0.09% of the TCV
Tier 5	\$(0.0025)	Member has an ADAV \geq 0.06% of the TCV

*Criteria (2) of Liquidity Provision Tier 2 will expire no later than December 31, 2024.

* * * * *

Cross Asset Tier

Tier	Rebate Per Share	Required Criteria
[Tier 1	\$(0.0033)	Member has an Options ADAV in the Market Maker capacity* of \geq 250,000 contracts on MEMX Options

		and an ADAV on MEMX Equities $\geq 0.30\%$ of the TCV]
[Tier 2	\$(0.0027)	Member has an Options ADAV in the Market Maker capacity of $\geq 125,000$ contracts on MEMX Options]
Tier 1[3]	\$(0.0026)	Member has an Options ADAV in the Customer/Professional capacity*[*] $\geq 20,000$ contracts on MEMX Options**[*]

[* The definition of Market Maker is set forth in the MEMX Options fee schedule.]

[] The definitions of Customer and Professional are set forth in the MEMX Options fee schedule.

**[*] Members that qualify for Cross Asset Tier 1[3] based on activity in a given month will also receive that associated Cross Asset Tier 1[3] rebate during the following month.

* * * * *