Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: *PRA\_Mailbox@sec.gov*.

Dated: October 11, 2023.

#### Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2023-22818 Filed 10-16-23; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270–208, OMB Control No. 3235–0213]

# Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 17g-1

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") is soliciting comments on the collection of information summarized below. The Commission plans to submit this existing collection of information to the Office of Management and Budget for extension and approval.

Rule 17g–1 (17 CFR 270.17g–1) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") (15 U.S.C. 80a–17(g)) governs the fidelity bonding of officers and employees of registered management investment companies ("funds") and their advisers. Rule 17g– 1 requires, in part, the following:

### **Independent Directors' Approval**

The form and amount of the fidelity bond must be approved by a majority of the fund's independent directors at least once annually, and the amount of any premium paid by the fund for any "joint insured bond," covering multiple funds or certain affiliates, must be approved by a majority of the fund's independent directors.

### Terms and Provisions of the Bond

The amount of the bond may not be less than the minimum amounts of coverage set forth in a schedule based on the fund's gross assets. The bond must provide that it shall not be cancelled, terminated, or modified except upon 60-days written notice to the affected party and to the Commission. In the case of a joint insured bond, 60-days written notice must also be given to each fund covered

by the bond. A joint insured bond must provide that the fidelity insurance company will provide all funds covered by the bond with a copy of the agreement, a copy of any claim on the bond, and notification of the terms of the settlement of any claim prior to execution of that settlement. Finally, a fund that is insured by a joint bond must enter into an agreement with all other parties insured by the joint bond regarding recovery under the bond.

### **Filings With the Commission**

Upon the execution of a fidelity bond or any amendment thereto, a fund must file with the Commission within 10 days: (i) a copy of the executed bond or any amendment to the bond, (ii) the independent directors' resolution approving the bond, and (iii) a statement as to the period for which premiums have been paid on the bond. In the case of a joint insured bond, a fund must also file: (i) a statement showing the amount the fund would have been required to maintain under the rule if it were insured under a single insured bond; and (ii) the agreement between the fund and all other insured parties regarding recovery under the bond. A fund must also notify the Commission in writing within five days of any claim or settlement on a claim under the fidelity bond.

## **Notices to Directors**

A fund must notify by registered mail each member of its board of directors of: (i) any cancellation, termination, or modification of the fidelity bond at least 45 days prior to the effective date; and (ii) the filing or settlement of any claim under the fidelity bond when notification is filed with the Commission.

Rule 17g–1's independent directors' annual review requirements, fidelity bond content requirements, joint bond agreement requirement, and the required notices to directors are designed to ensure the safety of fund assets against losses due to the conduct of persons who may obtain access to those assets. These requirements also seek to facilitate oversight of a fund's fidelity bond. The rule's required filings with the Commission are designed to assist the Commission in monitoring funds' compliance with the fidelity bond requirements.

Based on conversations with representatives in the fund industry, the Commission staff estimates that for each of the estimated 2,543 active funds (respondents),<sup>1</sup> the average annual

paperwork burden associated with rule 17g-1's requirements is two hours, one hour each for a compliance attorney and the board of directors as a whole. The time spent by a compliance attorney includes time spent filing reports with the Commission for fidelity losses (if any) as well as paperwork associated with any notices to directors, and managing any updates to the bond and the joint agreement (if one exists). The time spent by the board of directors as a whole includes any time spent initially establishing the bond, as well as time spent on annual updates and approvals. The Commission staff therefore estimates the total ongoing paperwork burden hours per year for all funds required by rule 17g-1 to be 5,086 hours  $(2,543 \text{ funds} \times 2 \text{ hours} = 5,086)$ hours). Commission staff continues to estimate that the filing and reporting requirements of rule 17g-1 do not entail any external cost burdens.

These estimates of average burden hours are made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act. These estimates are not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of Commission rules. The collection of information required by rule 17g–1 is mandatory and will not be kept confidential. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the Commission's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology. Consideration will be given to comments and suggestions submitted by December 18, 2023.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information under the PRA unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Please direct your written comments to: David Bottom, Acting Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and

 $<sup>^{1}\</sup>mathrm{Based}$  on a review of fund filings for the three-year period from January 1, 2020 to December 31,

<sup>2022,</sup> Commission staff calculates there are 2,186 funds (registered open- and closed-end funds, and business development companies) that must comply with the collections of information under rule 17g-1, and which collectively submit an estimated 2,543 filings on Form 17G annually.

Exchange Commission, c/o John Pezzullo, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: *PRA\_Mailbox@sec.gov.* 

Dated: October 11, 2023.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-98721; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2023-040]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend Options 7, Section 2

October 11, 2023.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on September 29, 2023, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "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 proposes to amend The Nasdaq Options Market LLC ("NOM") Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section

While the changes proposed herein are effective upon filing, the Exchange has designated the amendments become operative on October 2, 2023.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at <a href="https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/nasdaq/rules">https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/nasdaq/rules</a>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

### 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 NOM's Pricing Schedule at Options 7, Section 2, Nasdaq Options Market—Fees and Rebates. Today, NOM Options 7, Section 2(1) provides for various fees and rebates applicable to NOM Participants.

Today, NOM Market Maker <sup>3</sup> Rebates to Add Liquidity in Penny Symbols are paid per the highest tier achieved among the below tiers.

## MONTHLY VOLUME

Tier 1	Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of up to 0.10% of total indus-
	try customer equity and ETF option average daily volume ("ADV") contracts per day in a month.
Tier 2	Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.10% of total industry
	customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month.
Tier 3	Participant: (a) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.20% of total in-
	dustry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month; or (b)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in
	Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.15% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV con-
	tracts per day in a month. (2) transacts in all securities through one or more of its Nasdag Market Center MPIDs that
	represent (i) 0.50% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdaq
	Stock Market or (ii) 50 million shares or more ADV which adds liquidity in the same month on The Nasdag Stock Mar-
	ket, and (3) executes 1.5 million shares or more ADV in the same month utilizing the M–ELO order type on The Nasdaq
	Stock Market.
Tier 4	Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.60% of total indus-
	try customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month.
Tier 5	Participant adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols of above 0.40% of total indus-
	try customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month and transacts in all securities through one or
	more of its Nasdaq Market Center MPIDs that represent 0.40% or more of Consolidated Volume ("CV") which adds li-
	quidity in the same month on The Nasdag Stock Market.
Tier 6	Participant: (a)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols above 0.95% of total
	industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, (2) executes Total Volume of 250,000 or
	more contracts per day in a month, of which 30,000 or more contracts per day in a month must be removing liquidity,
	and (3) adds Firm, Broker-Dealer and Non-NOM Market Maker liquidity in Non-Penny Symbols of 10,000 or more con-
	tracts per day in a month; or (b)(1) adds NOM Market Maker liquidity in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols
	above 1.50% of total industry customer equity and ETF option ADV contracts per day in a month, and (2) executes
	Total Volume of 250,000 or more contracts per day in a month, of which 15,000 or more contracts per day in a month
	must be removing liquidity.

"Total Volume" is defined as Customer, Professional, Firm, Broker-Dealer, Non-NOM Market Maker and NOM Market Maker volume in Penny Symbols and/or Non-Penny Symbols which either adds or removes liquidity on NOM.

### Proposal

At this time, the Exchange proposes to amend Tiers 5 and 6 of the NOM Market

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The term "NOM Market Maker" or ("M") is a Participant that has registered as a Market Maker on NOM pursuant to Options 2, Section 1, and must also remain in good standing pursuant to Options

<sup>2,</sup> Section 9. In order to receive NOM Market Maker pricing in all securities, the Participant must be registered as a NOM Market Maker in at least one security. See Options 7, Section 1(a).