

QQQ, and EWJ.¹⁵ Furthermore, as previously mentioned, the Commission specifically approved a proposal by the Exchange to increase the position and exercise limits for options on QQQ from 900,000 contracts on the same side of the market to 1,800,000 contracts on the same side of the market; similar to the current proposal for options on SPY.¹⁶ The Exchange also notes that SPY is more liquid than QQQ.¹⁷

Lastly, the Commission expressed the belief that implementing higher position and exercise limits may bring additional depth and liquidity without increasing concerns regarding intermarket manipulation or disruption of the options or the underlying securities.¹⁸ The Exchange's existing surveillance and reporting safeguards are designed to deter and detect possible manipulative behavior which might arise from increasing position and exercise limits (increased as compared to the 900,000 limit in place prior to the SPY Pilot Program).¹⁹

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 entire proposal is consistent with Section (6)(b)(8) of the Act²⁰ in that it does not impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. On the contrary, the Exchange believes the proposal promotes competition because it will enable the option exchanges to attract additional order flow from the over-the-counter market, who in turn compete for those orders. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will result in continued opportunities to achieve the investment and trading objectives of market participants seeking efficient trading and hedging vehicles, to the benefit of investors, market participants, and the marketplace in general. The Exchange believes this proposed rule change is necessary to permit fair competition among the options exchanges and to establish uniform position limits for additional multiply listed option classes. Furthermore, the Exchange believes that

the other options exchanges will file similar proposals with the Commission.

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

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) Significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act²¹ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.²²

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: (i) Necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) 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 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 (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-BX-2018-022 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

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

²¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

²² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2018-022. 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 (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2018-022 and should be submitted on or before July 10, 2018.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²³

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-13082 Filed 6-18-18; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-83422; File No. SR-FINRA-2018-015]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on a Proposed Rule Change To Amend FINRA Rule 6433 To Adopt the OTC Quotation Tier Size Pilot as Permanent

June 13, 2018.

On April 20, 2018, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA")

²³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹⁵ See note 10 above.

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ See note 11 above.

¹⁸ See note 10 above.

¹⁹ See note 8 above.

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78(f)(8).

filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”) ¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² a proposed rule change to amend FINRA Rule 6433 to adopt the OTC quotation tier size pilot as permanent. The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on May 7, 2018.³ The Commission has received one comment letter on the proposed rule change.⁴

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁵ provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day after publication of the notice for this proposed rule change is June 21, 2018. The Commission is extending this 45-day time period.

The Commission finds that it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider the proposed rule change. Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁶ designates August 5, 2018, as the date by which the Commission shall either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change (File No. SR-FINRA-2018-015).

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2018-13081 Filed 6-18-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011-01-P

¹ 15 U.S.C.78s(b)(1).
² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.
³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 83129 (April 30, 2018), 83 FR 20131.
⁴ See Letter from Eugene P. Torpey, Chief Compliance Officer, Vandham Securities Corp. (May 10, 2018). All comments on the proposed rule change are available on the Commission’s website at: <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-finra-2018-015/finra2018015.htm>.
⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).
⁶ *Id.*
⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(31).

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Disaster Declaration #15555 and #15556; ALASKA Disaster Number AK-00038]

Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of Alaska

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a Notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of Alaska (FEMA-4369-DR), dated 06/08/2018.

Incident: Severe Storm.
Incident Period: 12/04/2017.

DATES: Issued on 06/08/2018.
Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 08/07/2018.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 03/08/2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: A. Escobar, Office of Disaster Assistance, U.S. Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street SW, Suite 6050, Washington, DC 20416, (202) 205-6734.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that as a result of the President’s major disaster declaration on 06/08/2018, Private Non-Profit organizations that provide essential services of a governmental nature may file disaster loan applications at the address listed above or other locally announced locations.

The following areas have been determined to be adversely affected by the disaster:

Primary Areas: Kenai Peninsula Borough
The Interest Rates are:

	Percent
<i>For Physical Damage:</i>	
Non-Profit Organizations with Credit Available Elsewhere ...	2.500
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	2.500
<i>For Economic Injury:</i>	
Non-Profit Organizations without Credit Available Elsewhere	2.500

The number assigned to this disaster for physical damage is 15555B and for economic injury is 155560.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 59008)
Rafaela Monchek,
Acting Associate Administrator for Disaster Assistance.
[FR Doc. 2018-13108 Filed 6-18-18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 8025-01-P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Surrender of License of Small Business Investment Company

Pursuant to the authority granted to the United States Small Business Administration under the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, as amended, under Section 309 of the Act and Section 107.1900 of the Small Business Administration Rules and Regulations (13 CFR 107.1900) to function as a small business investment company under the Small Business Investment Company License No. 05/75-0267 issued to Alpha Capital III SBIC, L.P., said license is hereby declared null and void.

United States Small Business Administration.

Dated: April 27, 2018.
A. Joseph Shepard,
Associate Administrator for Investment and Innovation.

[FR Doc. 2018-13101 Filed 6-18-18; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

[Disaster Declaration #15553 and #15554; New Jersey Disaster Number NJ-00048]

Presidential Declaration of a Major Disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of New Jersey

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This is a Notice of the Presidential declaration of a major disaster for Public Assistance Only for the State of New Jersey (FEMA-4368-DR), dated 06/08/2018.

Incident: Severe Winter Storm and Snowstorm.
Incident Period: 03/06/2018 through 03/07/2018.

DATES: Issued on 06/08/2018.
Physical Loan Application Deadline Date: 08/07/2018.

Economic Injury (EIDL) Loan Application Deadline Date: 03/08/2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit completed loan applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.