

Options Clearing Corporation 125 S. Franklin Street, Suite 1200 Chicago, IL 60606 312 322 6200 | theocc.com

July 31, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Christopher J. Kirkpatrick Office of the Secretariat Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20581

Re: CFTC Regulation 40.6(a) Certification. Notification of Proposed Rule Change to Revise The Options Clearing Corporation's Schedule of Fees (Rule Filing No. SR-OCC-2020-009)

Dear Secretary Kirkpatrick:

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Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("Act"), and Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") Regulation 40.6(a), The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") hereby certifies to the CFTC amendments to OCC's Schedule of Fees. The date of implementation of the rule is at least 10 business days following receipt of the rule filing by the CFTC or the date the proposed rule is approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") or otherwise becomes effective under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"). This rule filing has been submitted to the SEC under the Exchange Act.

OCC has requested confidential treatment for Exhibit 3 to SR-OCC-2020-009 contained in pages 19-49 of the enclosed filing.

In conformity with the requirements of Regulation 40.6(a)(7), OCC states the following:

Explanation and Analysis

OCC proposes to revise its schedule of fees effective September 1, 2020, to implement a decrease in clearing fees. OCC's proposed schedule of fees is attached hereto as Exhibit 5. Material proposed to be added to OCC's Schedule of Fees as currently in effect is underlined and material proposed to be deleted is marked in strikethrough text. All capitalized terms not defined herein have the same meaning as set forth in the OCC By-Laws and Rules.¹

OCC's By-Laws and Rules can be found on OCC's public website at <u>https://</u> www.theocc.com/Company-Information/Documents-and-Archives/By-Laws-and-Rules. Under OCC's capital management policy, if OCC's Equity exceeds 110 percent of the Target Capital Requirement plus the amount of approved capital expenditures, OCC's Board may reduce the cost of clearing by lowering fees, declaring a fee holiday, or issuing refunds. As of December 31, 2019, OCC maintained shareholders' equity of approximately \$351.3 million.² OCC has experienced record volumes in 2020 while maintaining expenses at or around the budgeted amount. Accordingly, OCC proposes to modify its fee schedule to: (i) decrease its per contract clearing fee from \$0.055 to \$0.045 per contract; and (ii) adjust the quantity of contracts at which the fixed, per trade clearing fee begins from trades with more than 999 contracts per trade to trades with more than 1222 contracts per trade as set forth in the Schedule of Fees depicted below.³

Current Fee Schedule		Proposed Fee Schedule	
Clearing Fees		Clearing Fees	
Trades with contracts of 0-999	\$0.055/contract	Trades with contracts of 0-1222	\$0.045/contract
Trades with contracts of more than 999	\$55/trade	Trades with contracts of more than 1222	\$55/trade

OCC proposes to make the fee change effective September 1, 2020, because OCC believes that this date is the first date that the industry could be prepared to process the new fee without disruption based on consultations with market participants.⁴

OCC reviewed the DCO core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Act. During this review, OCC identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted:

Public Information. OCC believes that implementing the proposed rule change will be aligned with Core Principle L,⁵ which requires, in part, that each DCO provide to market participants sufficient information to enable the market participants to identify and evaluate accurately the costs associated with using the services of the DCO. OCC believes that by implementing the proposed changes to its schedule of fees and by publishing the modified schedule of fees to its public website it would provide Clearing Members with sufficient information to enable them to identify and evaluate the costs associated with using the services of OCC.

² <u>See OCC Audited Financials 2019 available at https://www.theocc.com/getattachment/b12dec99-78ee-4ac0-b83e-94ec65ca7e94/attachment.aspx</u>.

³ These changes are also reflected in Exhibit 5.

⁴ OCC notes that a mid-month change to clearing fees could introduce operational disruption to Clearing Members due to the impact on their billing processes.

⁵ 7 U.S.C. 7a-1(c)(2)(L).

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Opposing Views

No opposing views were expressed related to the rule amendments.

Notice of Pending Rule Certification

OCC hereby certifies that notice of this rule filing has been be given to Clearing Members of OCC in compliance with Regulation 40.6(a)(2) by posting a copy of the proposed rule change on OCC's website concurrently with the filing of this submission.

Certification

OCC hereby certifies that the rule set forth at Item 1 of the enclosed filing complies with the Act and the CFTC's regulations thereunder.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Blake Brockway Vice President, Associate General Counsel

Enclosure

Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and	asterisks.	OMB Number: 3235-0045 Estimated average burden hours per response
	D EXCHANGE COMMISSION NGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amer	File No.* SR - 2020 - * 009 dment No. (req. for Amendments *)
Filing by Options Clearing Corporation Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchang	e Act of 1934	
Initial * Amendment * Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) * Section	n 19(b)(3)(A) * Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * Date Expires *	☐ 19b-4(f ☑ 19b-4(f ☐ 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(5)
Notice of proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Cle Section 806(e)(1) * Section 806(e)(2	-	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Section 3C(b)(2) *
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Pape	Document	
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 charae Proposed Rule Change to Revise The Options Clearin		*).
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address prepared to respond to questions and comments on the	-	f-regulatory organization
First Name * Blake	Last Name * Brockway	
Title * Vice President, Associate General Cou	nsel	
E-mail * bbrockway@theocc.com		
Telephone * (312) 322-6246 Fax		
Signature		
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange	Act of 1934	
has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by		rized.
	(Title *)	
Date 07/31/2020	Director, Senior Counsel	
By Mark C. Brown		
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.	Mark C. Brown, mcbrown @	theocc.com

OMB APPROVAL

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549				
For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.				
Form 19b-4 Information *AddRemoveView	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	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 Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * Add Remove View	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, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)			
Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	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.			
Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	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 4 - Marked CopiesAddRemoveView	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.			
Add Remove View	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 Add Remove View	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.			

File No. SR-OCC-2020-009 Page 3 of 53

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 19b-4

Proposed Rule Change by

THE OPTIONS CLEARING CORPORATION

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

Item 1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC" or "Corporation") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to revise OCC's Schedule of Fees effective September 1, 2020, to implement a decrease in clearing fees. OCC's Schedule of Fees is attached hereto as Exhibit 5 to File No. SR-OCC-2020-009. Material proposed to be added to OCC's Schedule of Fees as currently in effect is underlined and material proposed to be deleted is marked in strikethrough text. All capitalized terms not defined herein have the same meaning as set forth in the OCC By-Laws and Rules.³

Item 2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved for filing with the Commission by OCC's Compensation and Performance Committee on July 21, 2020 acting upon delegated authority of the Board of Directors.

Questions should be addressed to Blake Brockway, Vice President, Associate General Counsel, at (312) 322-6246.

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

A. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to revise OCC's Schedule of Fees effective

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ OCC's By-Laws and Rules can be found on OCC's public website: <u>https://</u> www.theocc.com/Company-Information/Documents-and-Archives/By-Laws-and-Rules.

September 1, 2020, to implement a decrease in clearing fees. Under OCC's capital management policy, if OCC's Equity exceeds 110 percent of the Target Capital Requirement plus the amount of approved capital expenditures, OCC's Board may reduce the cost of clearing by lowering fees, declaring a fee holiday, or issuing refunds.⁴ As of December 31, 2019, OCC maintained shareholders' equity of approximately \$351.3 million.⁵ OCC has experienced record volumes in 2020 while maintaining expenses at or around the budgeted amount. Accordingly, OCC proposes to modify its fee schedule to: (i) decrease its per contract clearing fee from \$0.055 to \$0.045 per contract; and (ii) adjust the quantity of contracts at which the fixed, per trade clearing fee begins from trades with more than 999 contracts per trade to trades with more than 1222 contracts per trade as set forth in the Schedule of Fees depicted below.⁶

Current Fee Schedule		Proposed Fee Schedule	
Clearing Fees		Clearing Fees	
Trades with contracts of 0-999	\$0.055/contract	Trades with contracts of 0-1222	\$0.045/contract
Trades with contracts of more than 999	\$55/trade	Trades with contracts of more than 1222	\$55/trade

OCC proposes to make the fee change effective September 1, 2020, because OCC

believes that this date is the first date that the industry could be prepared to process the new fee

without disruption based on consultations with market participants.⁷

 ⁴ See Securities Exchange Release No. 88029 (Jan. 24, 2020), 85 Fed. Red. 5500, 5502 (Jan. 30, 2020) (File No. SR-OCC-2019-007) and Securities Exchange Release No. 87257 (Oct. 8, 2019), 84 Fed. Reg. 55194, 55196 (Oct. 15, 2019) (File No. SR-OCC-2019-805).

⁵ <u>See OCC Audited Financials 2019 *available at* https://www.theocc.com/getattachment/ b12dec99-78ee-4ac0-b83e-94ec65ca7e94/attachment.aspx.</u>

⁶ These changes are also reflected in Exhibit 5 to File No. SR-OCC-2020-009.

⁷ OCC notes that a mid-month change to clearing fees could introduce operational

B. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

Section 17A(b)(3)(D) of the Act⁸ requires that the rules of a clearing agency provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its participants. OCC believes that the proposed fee change is reasonable because it is designed to decrease the cost of clearing while maintaining sufficient reserves in the form of liquid net assets to cover OCC's operating expenses and address potential business or operational losses so that OCC can continue to meet its obligations as a systemically important financial market utility to Clearing Members and the general public if such losses were to materialize (including through a recovery or orderly wind-down of critical operations and services) and thereby facilitate compliance with certain requirements of Rule 17Ad-22(e)(15)(ii).⁹

In determining the appropriate level of the proposed fee decrease, OCC's Board and Compensation and Performance Committee considered a variety of factors, including projected average daily volume, operating income, and margin and a scenario analysis modeling the sensitivity of operating income and margin, adjusting for different volume levels, clearing fees and potential year-end refunds against the thresholds set forth in OCC's Capital Management Policy. The Compensation and Performance Committee also considered a sensitivity analysis assessing the minimum average daily volume required to support the proposed decrease.¹⁰ OCC believes that the proposed decrease in clearing fees is reasonable and consistent with its existing By-Laws and Rules. OCC also believes that the proposed fee change would result in an

disruption to Clearing Members due to the impact on their billing processes.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(D).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(15)(ii).

¹⁰ A summary of the scenario and sensitivity analyses is included in confidential Exhibit 3 to File No. SR-OCC-2020-009.

equitable allocation of fees among its participants because it would be equally applicable to all market participants transacting at a given level of contract volume. As a result, OCC believes that the proposed fee schedule provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable fees in accordance with Section 17A(b)(3)(D) of the Act.¹¹

The proposed rule change is not inconsistent with the existing rules of OCC, including any other rules proposed to be amended.

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

Section 17A(b)(3)(I) of the Act¹² requires that the rules of a clearing agency not impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would have any impact or impose a burden on competition. Although this proposed rule change affects clearing members, their customers, and the markets that OCC serves, OCC believes that the proposed rule change would not disadvantage or favor any particular user of OCC's services in relationship to another user because the proposed clearing fees apply equally to all users of OCC. Accordingly, OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would have any impact or impose a burden on competition.

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

Written comments were not and are not intended to be solicited with respect to the proposed rule change, and none have been received.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(D).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(I).

Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

OCC does not consent to an extension of the time period specified in Section 19(b)(2) of the Act.¹³

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)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii)¹⁴ of the Act, and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,¹⁵ the

proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness as it constitutes a change in fees

charged to OCC clearing members. 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.¹⁶

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

Not applicable.

Item 9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

Item 11. <u>Exhibits</u>

- ¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).
- ¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).
- ¹⁵ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).
- ¹⁶ Notwithstanding its immediate effectiveness, implementation of this rule change will be delayed until this change is deemed certified under CFTC Regulation 40.6.

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

Register.

Exhibit 3. Confidential Data and Analysis.

Exhibit 5. Proposed changes to OCC Schedule of Fees, effective September 1, 2020.

CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT IS REQUESTED FOR EXHIBIT 3

PURSUANT TO SEC RULE 24b-2

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, The Options

Clearing Corporation has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

THE OPTIONS CLEARING CORPORATION

By:

Blake Brockway Vice President, Associate General Counsel

EXHIBIT 1A

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-[_____]; File No. SR-OCC-2020-009)

[August] __, 2020

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Revise The Options Clearing Corporation's Schedule of Fees

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 July 31, 2020, The Options

Clearing Corporation ("OCC" or "Corporation") 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 primarily by OCC. OCC filed the

proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii)³ of the Act and Rule 19b-

 $4(f)(2)^4$ thereunder so that the proposal was effective upon filing with the Commission.

The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule

change from interested persons.

I. <u>Clearing Agency's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

The proposed rule change by OCC would revise OCC's Schedule of Fees effective September 1, 2020, to implement a decrease in clearing fees. OCC's Schedule of Fees is included in Exhibit 5 to File No. SR-OCC-2020-009. Material proposed to be added to OCC's Schedule of Fees as currently in effect is underlined and material

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

proposed to be deleted is marked in strikethrough text. All capitalized terms not defined herein have the same meaning as set forth in the OCC By-Laws and Rules.⁵

II. <u>Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for,</u> <u>the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, OCC 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. OCC has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of these statements.

(A) <u>Clearing Agency's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for,</u> <u>the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(1) <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to revise OCC's Schedule of Fees effective September 1, 2020, to implement a decrease in clearing fees. Under OCC's capital management policy, if OCC's Equity exceeds 110 percent of the Target Capital Requirement plus the amount of approved capital expenditures, OCC's Board may reduce the cost of clearing by lowering fees, declaring a fee holiday, or issuing refunds.⁶ As of December 31, 2019, OCC maintained shareholders' equity of approximately \$351.3

⁵ OCC's By-Laws and Rules can be found on OCC's public website: <u>https://</u> <u>www.theocc.com/Company-Information/Documents-and-Archives/By-Laws-and-Rules</u>.

See Securities Exchange Release No. 88029 (Jan. 24, 2020), 85 Fed. Red. 5500, 5502 (Jan. 30, 2020) (File No. SR-OCC-2019-007) and Securities Exchange Release No. 87257 (Oct. 8, 2019), 84 Fed. Reg. 55194, 55196 (Oct. 15, 2019) (File No. SR-OCC-2019-805).

million.⁷ OCC has experienced record volumes in 2020 while maintaining expenses at or around the budgeted amount. Accordingly, OCC proposes to modify its fee schedule to: (i) decrease its per contract clearing fee from \$0.055 to \$0.045 per contract; and (ii) adjust the quantity of contracts at which the fixed, per trade clearing fee begins from trades with more than 999 contracts per trade to trades with more than 1222 contracts per trade as set forth in the Schedule of Fees depicted below.⁸

Current Fee Schedule		Proposed Fee Schedule	
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Trades with contracts of 0-999	\$0.055/contract	Trades with contracts of 0-1222	\$0.045/contract
Trades with contracts of more than 999	\$55/trade	Trades with contracts of more than 1222	\$55/trade

OCC proposes to make the fee change effective September 1, 2020, because OCC believes that this date is the first date that the industry could be prepared to process the new fee without disruption based on consultations with market participants.⁹

(2) <u>Statutory Basis</u>

Section 17A(b)(3)(D) of the Act¹⁰ requires that the rules of a clearing agency

provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its

participants. OCC believes that the proposed fee change is reasonable because it is

 ⁷ See OCC Audited Financials 2019 available at <u>https://www.theocc.com/getattachment/ b12dec99-78ee-4ac0-b83e-94ec65ca7e94/attachment.aspx</u>.

⁸ These changes are also reflected in Exhibit 5 to File No. SR-OCC-2020-009.

⁹ OCC notes that a mid-month change to clearing fees could introduce operational disruption to Clearing Members due to the impact on their billing processes.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(D).

designed to decrease the cost of clearing while maintaining sufficient reserves in the form of liquid net assets to cover OCC's operating expenses and address potential business or operational losses so that OCC can continue to meet its obligations as a systemically important financial market utility to Clearing Members and the general public if such losses were to materialize (including through a recovery or orderly wind-down of critical operations and services) and thereby facilitate compliance with certain requirements of Rule 17Ad-22(e)(15)(ii).¹¹

In determining the appropriate level of the proposed fee decrease, OCC's Board and Compensation and Performance Committee considered a variety of factors, including projected average daily volume, operating income, and margin and a scenario analysis modeling the sensitivity of operating income and margin, adjusting for different volume levels, clearing fees and potential year-end refunds against the thresholds set forth in OCC's Capital Management Policy. The Compensation and Performance Committee also considered a sensitivity analysis assessing the minimum average daily volume required to support the proposed decrease.¹² OCC believes that the proposed decrease in clearing fees is reasonable and consistent with its existing By-Laws and Rules. OCC also believes that the proposed fee change would result in an equitable allocation of fees among its participants because it would be equally applicable to all market participants transacting at a given level of contract volume. As a result, OCC believes that the

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.17Ad-22(e)(15)(ii).

¹² A summary of the scenario and sensitivity analyses is included in confidential Exhibit 3 to File No. SR-OCC-2020-009.

proposed fee schedule provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable fees in accordance with Section 17A(b)(3)(D) of the Act.¹³

The proposed rule change is not inconsistent with the existing rules of OCC, including any other rules proposed to be amended.

(B) <u>Clearing Agency's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

Section 17A(b)(3)(I) of the Act¹⁴ requires that the rules of a clearing agency not impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would have any impact or impose a burden on competition. Although this proposed rule change affects clearing members, their customers, and the markets that OCC serves, OCC believes that the proposed rule change would not disadvantage or favor any particular user of OCC's services in relationship to another user because the proposed clearing fees apply equally to all users of OCC. Accordingly, OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would have any impact or impose a burden on competition.

(C) <u>Clearing Agency's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change</u> <u>Received from Members, Participants or Others</u>

Written comments on the proposed rule change were not and are not intended to be solicited with respect to the proposed rule change and none have been received.

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

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(D).

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(I).

Pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)(ii)^{15}$ of the Act, and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)

thereunder,¹⁶ the proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness as it constitutes a change in fees charged to OCC Clearing Members. 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.¹⁷

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 e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-OCC-2020-009 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.

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

¹⁷ Notwithstanding its immediate effectiveness, implementation of this rule change will be delayed until this change is deemed certified under CFTC Regulation 40.6.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-OCC-2020-009. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of OCC and on OCC's website at https://www.theocc.com/Company-Information/Documents-and-Archives/By-Laws-and-Rules.

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-OCC-2020-009 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

File No. SR-OCC-2020-009 Page 18 of 53

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to

delegated authority.¹⁸

Secretary

¹⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Underlined text indicates new text

Strikethrough text indicates deleted text

The Options Clearing Corporation

Schedule of Fees

Clearing Member

Clearing

Clearing Fees	
Trades with contracts of $0 - \frac{9991222}{2}$	\$ 0.055 0.045
Trades with contracts of more than <u>9991222</u>	\$55.00/trade
New Products	
Unless otherwise agreed to by OCC and the applicable exchange, from the first day of listing through the end of the following calendar month	\$0.00
Linkage per side	\$0.02
*A Linkage transaction that includes more than 2,750 contracts will be charged a flat fee of \$55.00 per trade per side.	
Minimum Monthly Clearing Fee	\$200.00
Exercise Fee — per line item on exercise notice	\$1.00
Membership	
New Clearing Member Qualification Fee	\$4,000.00
Stock and Market Loan Program Transaction Fees	
Per transaction assessed against each lender and borrower	\$1.00
Stock and Market Loan Program Borrower Fees	
Monthly annualized charge on average daily notional outstanding balance	0.4 basis point

Stamps		
Clearing Member Auth	orization Stamp	\$23.00/stamp
Ancillary Servic	es	Per Month
FIER I		\$1,500.00
and trade data (includes Series File • Special Se	OCC Access • Data Service - proprietary position s transmission to service bureau) • Report Bundle • ttlement File • Open Interest File • Prices File • retical Profit and Loss Values • Leased line	
TIER II		\$1,000.00
	OCC Access • Data Service - proprietary position s transmission to service bureau) • Report Bundle • additional	
TIER III		\$650.00
ENCORE Access • My	OCC Access	
TIER IV (Stock Loan	only)	\$300.00
ENCORE Access • My	OCC Access	
Additional Clearing M	ſember	No Charge
Leased Line Service D	Destinations	Per month, per line
Midwest		\$1,000.00
East Coast		\$1,500.00
West Coast		\$2,000.00
Cash Managem	ent Fee	
Monthly annualized channels of the second se	arge on Clearing Member's average daily cash balance ve bank account.	e 5 basis points
Operational Los	ss Fee	
Maximum Operational Loss Fee**	+	
\$222,000,000.00 at any	the Operational Loss Fee if OCC's shareholders' equi time or falls below \$247,000,000.00 for a period of 9 an the maximum Operational Loss Fee is needed to r	00 consecutive

shareholders' equity to \$272,000,000.00, OCC will charge only that amount.

Clearing Member & Non-Clearing Member

Publications	
Disclosure Documents	\$0.45
OCC/ICC By-Laws and Rules	Updates can be obtained on a subscription basis for \$47.00 per year.

Non-Clearing Member

Series Information	Per Month
Non-Distribution	\$1,750.00
Distribution	\$3,000.00
Real Time Data (in addition to fees listed above)	\$250.00
Prices Information	\$3,000.00
Theoretical Profit and Loss Values	\$1,000.00

Escrow Banks

Escrow Program Fees

\$200.00 per month

As of <u>April September</u> 2020. ALL FEES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. For further information, contact Member Services at 1-800-621-6072.