Proposal to suspend until June 30, 2020 the application of its continued listing requirement.
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

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 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

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

### Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

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 Copies

The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.

### Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text

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

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.
1. **Text of the Proposed Rule Change**

   (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)\(^1\) and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,\(^2\) New York Stock Exchange LLC (“NYSE” or the “Exchange”) proposes to suspend until June 30, 2020 the application of its continued listing requirement that companies must maintain an average global market capitalization over a consecutive 30 trading-day period of at least $15 million (the “Market Capitalization Standard”).

   A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the Federal Register is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

   (b) The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any direct effect, or any significant indirect effect, on any other Exchange rule in effect at the time of this filing.

   (c) Not applicable.

2. **Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization**

   Senior management has approved the proposed rule change pursuant to authority delegated to it by the Board of the Exchange. No further action is required under the Exchange’s governing documents. Therefore, the Exchange’s internal procedures with respect to the proposed rule change are complete.

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

   John Carey  
   Senior Director  
   NYSE Group, Inc.  
   (212) 656-5640

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

   (a) **Purpose**

   The U.S. and global equities markets have experienced unprecedented market-wide declines as a result of the ongoing spread of COVID-19. As a consequence,

---


since the commencement of the current market turbulence in the last week of February 2020, the Exchange has experienced an unusually high number (as compared to historical levels) of listed companies that are in imminent danger of immediate suspension and delisting under Section 802.01B of the Manual for failure to comply with the Market Capitalization Standard.

In response to the conditions described above, the Exchange proposes to suspend, until June 30, 2020, the application of the Market Capitalization Standard. The extreme volatility and the precipitous decline in trading prices of many securities experienced in the U.S. and global equities markets could lead to a high number of securities being immediately suspended from trading and delisted during a short period of highly volatile markets. The proposed suspension of the Market Capitalization Standard until June 30, 2020 will provide temporary relief to these companies and their shareholders in response to these extraordinary market conditions.

Currently, when a company is identified as being noncompliant with the Market Capitalization Standard, trading in its securities is immediately suspended and the company is subject to delisting. Such a company that is noncompliant with the Market Capitalization Standard is not eligible to submit a plan to regain compliance pursuant to Sections 802.02 and 802.03 of the Manual. However, while its securities are suspended from trading, such company may appeal its delisting to a Committee of the Board of Directors of the Exchange. The proposed suspension of the Market Capitalization Standard will not affect the status of any company that has been formally notified for noncompliance with the Market Capitalization Standard and is currently in the Exchange’s delisting appeal process prior to the date of this filing.

Instead, under the proposed suspension of the Exchange’s Market Capitalization Standard, companies would not be notified of new events of noncompliance with the Market Capitalization Standard during the suspension period. Following the temporary rule suspension, any new events of noncompliance with the Exchange’s Market Capitalization Standard would be determined based on a consecutive 30 trading-day period commencing on or after July 1, 2020.

The Exchange would be able to implement the proposed rule change immediately upon effectiveness of this proposed rule change.

---

3 Section 802.01B of the Manual states that “the Exchange will promptly initiate suspension and delisting procedures with respect to a company (including the issuer of an Equity Investment Tracking Stock) that is listed under any financial standard set out in Sections 102.01C or 103.01B if a company is determined to have average global market capitalization over a consecutive 30 trading-day period of less than $15,000,000, regardless of the original standard under which it listed. A company is not eligible to follow the procedures outlined in Sections 802.02 and 802.03 with respect to this criterion.”

4 A company would continue to be subject to delisting for failure to comply with other listing requirements.
(b) **Statutory Basis**

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,\(^5\) in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,\(^6\) in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect the public interest and the interests of investors, and because it is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

As a result of uncertainty related to the ongoing spread of the COVID-19 virus, the prices of securities listed on U.S. exchanges are experiencing rapid and significant declines. The proposed rule change is designed to reduce uncertainty regarding the ability of certain companies to remain listed on the NYSE during the current highly unusual market conditions, thereby protecting investors, facilitating transactions in securities, and removing an impediment to a free and open market. All companies listed on the Exchange that fall below the Market Capitalization Standard as of the time of filing of this proposal would be eligible to take advantage of the proposed suspension of the Market Capitalization Standard.

4. **Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement on Burden on Competition**

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The proposed rule change is not designed to address any competitive issues but rather is designed to reduce uncertainty for certain companies and their shareholders regarding the ability of certain securities to remain listed on the NYSE during the current highly unusual market conditions.

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

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written 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)**


The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change qualifies for immediate effectiveness upon filing as a “non-controversial” rule change in accordance with Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act\textsuperscript{7} and Rule 19b-4(f)(6), thereunder.\textsuperscript{8}

The Exchange asserts that the proposed rule change (i) will not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, (ii) will not impose any significant burden on competition, and (iii) by its terms, will not become operative for 30 days after the date of this filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. In addition, the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and text of the proposed rule change, at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest or impose any significant burden on competition because it is designed to reduce uncertainty for certain companies and their shareholders regarding the ability of certain securities to remain listed on the NYSE during the current highly unusual market conditions. The proposed change is designed to respond to the unprecedented uncertainty and resulting market declines related to the global spread of the COVID-19 virus.

In view of the immediate nature of the relief requested, the Exchange respectfully requests to have the proposed amendments become operative immediately. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the five business day notice of the Exchange’s intent to file this proposed rule change, as well as the 30-day operative delay, so that the proposed rule change may become immediately operative pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)\textsuperscript{9} and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)\textsuperscript{10} thereunder. Waiver of these periods will allow the Exchange to immediately implement the proposed rule change upon its filing with the Commission.

The Exchange believes that waiver of both the operative delay and the requirement to provide five-days’ written notice of the proposed rule change would be consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest because the markets have already triggered four Level 1 Market Wide Circuit Breaker Halts in one week, which is unprecedented, and given the ongoing uncertainty relating to the global spread of the COVID-19 virus, the Exchange has no way of knowing whether there will be additional market declines that would result in large numbers of companies unexpectedly falling below the Market

\textsuperscript{8} 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).
\textsuperscript{10} 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).
Capitalization Standard in the immediate future. If that were to occur, such companies would be subject to immediate suspension and delisting. Waiving the 30 day operative delay so that the proposal is operative and effective upon filing would avoid the immediate suspension and delisting of companies falling below the Market Capitalization Standard as of a result of these unprecedented market conditions. The waiver of the operative delay would also reduce the level of uncertainty of listed issuers and their investors with respect to their continued listing status.

For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that this rule filing qualifies for immediate effectiveness as a “non-controversial” rule change. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule changes 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.

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 Proposed Rule Change for Federal Register
Self-Regulatory Organizations; New York Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Suspend Until June 30, 2020 the Application of Its Continued Listing Requirement With Respect to Global Market Capitalization

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1)\(^1\) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Act”)\(^2\) and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,\(^3\) notice is hereby given that, on March 19, 2020, New York Stock Exchange LLC (“NYSE” 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 self-regulatory organization. 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 suspend until June 30, 2020 the application of its continued listing requirement that companies must maintain an average global market capitalization over a consecutive 30 trading-day period of at least $15 million (the “Market Capitalization Standard”). The proposed rule change is available on the Exchange’s website at [www.nyse.com](http://www.nyse.com), 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 self-regulatory organization 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 those 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 parts of such statements.

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

1. Purpose

The U.S. and global equities markets have experienced unprecedented market-wide declines as a result of the ongoing spread of COVID-19. As a consequence, since the commencement of the current market turbulence in the last week of February 2020, the Exchange has experienced an unusually high number (as compared to historical levels) of listed companies that are in imminent danger of immediate suspension and delisting under Section 802.01B of the Manual for failure to comply with the Market Capitalization Standard4.

In response to the conditions described above, the Exchange proposes to suspend, until June 30, 2020, the application of the Market Capitalization Standard. The extreme

---

4 Section 802.01B of the Manual states that “the Exchange will promptly initiate suspension and delisting procedures with respect to a company (including the issuer of an Equity Investment Tracking Stock) that is listed under any financial standard set out in Sections 102.01C or 103.01B if a company is determined to have average global market capitalization over a consecutive 30 trading-day period of less than $15,000,000, regardless of the original standard under which it listed. A company is not eligible to follow the procedures outlined in Sections 802.02 and 802.03 with respect to this criterion.”
volatility and the precipitous decline in trading prices of many securities experienced in the U.S. and global equities markets could lead to a high number of securities being immediately suspended from trading and delisted during a short period of highly volatile markets. The proposed suspension of the Market Capitalization Standard until June 30, 2020 will provide temporary relief to these companies and their shareholders in response to these extraordinary market conditions.

Currently, when a company is identified as being noncompliant with the Market Capitalization Standard, trading in its securities is immediately suspended and the company is subject to delisting. Such a company that is noncompliant with the Market Capitalization Standard is not eligible to submit a plan to regain compliance pursuant to Sections 802.02 and 802.03 of the Manual. However, while its securities are suspended from trading, such company may appeal its delisting to a Committee of the Board of Directors of the Exchange. The proposed suspension of the Market Capitalization Standard will not affect the status of any company that has been formally notified for noncompliance with the Market Capitalization Standard and is currently in the Exchange’s delisting appeal process prior to the date of this filing.

Instead, under the proposed suspension of the Exchange’s Market Capitalization Standard, companies would not be notified of new events of noncompliance with the Market Capitalization Standard during the suspension period. Following the temporary rule suspension, any new events of noncompliance with the Exchange’s Market Capitalization Standard would be determined based on a consecutive 30 trading-day period commencing on or after July 1, 2020.

A company would continue to be subject to delisting for failure to comply with other listing requirements.
The Exchange would be able to implement the proposed rule change immediately upon effectiveness of this proposed rule change.

2. **Statutory Basis**

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect the public interest and the interests of investors, and because it is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

As a result of uncertainty related to the ongoing spread of the COVID-19 virus, the prices of securities listed on U.S. exchanges are experiencing rapid and significant declines. The proposed rule change is designed to reduce uncertainty regarding the ability of certain companies to remain listed on the NYSE during the current highly unusual market conditions, thereby protecting investors, facilitating transactions in securities, and removing an impediment to a free and open market. All companies listed on the Exchange that fall below the Market Capitalization Standard as of the time of filing of this proposal would be eligible to take advantage of the proposed suspension of the Market Capitalization Standard.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes

---

of the Act. The proposed rule change is not designed to address any competitive issues but rather is designed to reduce uncertainty for certain companies and their shareholders regarding the ability of certain securities to remain listed on the NYSE during the current highly unusual market conditions.

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

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

The Exchange has filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder. Because the 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 prior to 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest, the proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) thereunder.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of the filing. However, pursuant to Rule 19b4(f)(6)(iii), the Commission may designate a shorter time if such action is consistent

---

with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange has asked the Commission to waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposal may become operative immediately upon filing.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings under Section 19(b)(2)(B) of the Act 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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or

• Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSE-2020-21 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-NYSE-2020-21. 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 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-NYSE-2020-21 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.\(^\text{13}\)

Eduardo A. Aleman
Deputy Secretary

\(^{13}\) 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).