

On balance, the NRC's principles of good regulation demonstrate that the granting of the requested exemption is otherwise in the public interest. As an initial matter, the exemption is necessary for the restart of the AFRRI TRIGA reactor. In its exemption request, the licensee provided that such restart is critical to national defense. The licensing of the specified applicants for AFRRI operator licenses would bring the facility into compliance with the staffing and surveillance requirements of its technical specifications and would facilitate the maintenance of its critical systems. Additionally, as clearly, openly, and independently determined above, the licensee's preferred method of training and testing these applicants with respect to control manipulations at the INL NRAD TRIGA reactor will not endanger life or property because the operating and technical characteristics of the INL NRAD TRIGA reactor are sufficiently similar to those of the AFRRI TRIGA reactor with respect to control manipulations. Therefore, it would be most efficient to approve the licensee's preferred method as opposed to requiring some equally effective alternative method. The requested exemption would also maintain unchanged the substantive requirements upon the specified AFRRI applicants with respect to training and testing. This would further reliability by allowing these applicants to complete their applications with the underlying requirements unchanged and by allowing the operating test to be conducted with the underlying requirements unchanged. Finally, the exemption would only apply to the training and testing of the four named applicants and would expire thereafter; therefore, the exemption is narrowly tailored to be efficient and to maintain the reliability of the AFRRI operator licensing program.

Based on the above, the NRC finds that the requested exemption is otherwise in the public interest.

D. Environmental Considerations

This exemption allows four named applicants for an AFRRI TRIGA reactor operator or senior operator license to perform their training and testing control manipulations required by 10 CFR 55.31(a)(5) and 10 CFR 55.45(b) at the INL NRAD TRIGA reactor instead of at the AFRRI TRIGA reactor.

For the following reasons, this exemption meets the eligibility criteria of 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25) for a categorical exclusion. There are no special or extraordinary circumstances present that would preclude reliance on this exclusion. The NRC determined, in

accordance with 10 CFR 51.22(c)(25)(vi)(E), that the requirements from which the exemption is sought involve education, training, experience, qualification, requalification, or other employment suitability requirements. The NRC also determined that granting the requested exemption involves no significant hazards consideration because it does not authorize any physical changes to the facility or any of its safety systems or change any of the assumptions or limits used in the facility licensee's safety analyses or introduce any new failure modes; no significant change in the types or significant increase in the amounts of any effluents that may be released offsite because the exemption does not affect any effluent release limits as provided in the facility licensee's technical specifications or by 10 CFR part 20, "Standards for Protection Against Radiation"; no significant increase in individual or cumulative public or occupational radiation exposure because the exemption does not affect limits on the release of any radioactive material or the limits provided in 10 CFR part 20 for radiation exposure to workers or members of the public; no significant construction impact because the exemption does not involve any changes to a construction permit; and no significant increase in the potential for or consequences from radiological accidents because the exemption does not alter any of the assumptions or limits in the facility licensee's safety analyses. In addition, the NRC determined that there would be no significant impacts to biota, water resources, historic properties, cultural resources, or socioeconomic conditions in the region. As such, there are no extraordinary circumstances present that would preclude reliance on this categorical exclusion. Therefore, pursuant to 10 CFR 51.22(b), no environmental impact statement or environmental assessment need be prepared in connection with granting the requested exemption.

IV. Conclusion

Accordingly, the Commission has determined that, pursuant to 10 CFR 55.11, the exemption is authorized by law, will not endanger life or property, and is otherwise in the public interest. Therefore, effective immediately, the Commission hereby grants AFRRI an exemption from 10 CFR 55.31(a)(5) and 10 CFR 55.45(b) to allow the four applicants for an AFRRI TRIGA reactor operator or senior operator license, specified by name in the licensee's letter dated October 7, 2021, to provide evidence that they, as trainees, have

successfully manipulated the controls of the INL NRAD TRIGA reactor and to be administered the portion of the operating test requiring control manipulations at the INL NRAD TRIGA reactor. This exemption expires when the training and initial testing of these new applicants is completed.

Dated: October 22, 2021.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Mohamed Shams,

Director, Division of Advanced Reactors and Non-Power Production and Utilization Facilities, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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POSTAL SERVICE

Sunshine Act Meetings

DATE AND TIME: Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 10:15 a.m.; and Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 9 a.m.

PLACE: Washington, DC, at U.S. Postal Service Headquarters, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, in the Benjamin Franklin Room.

STATUS: Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 10:15 a.m.—Closed; Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 9 a.m.—Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at 10:15 a.m. (Closed)

1. Strategic Issues.
2. Financial and Operational Matters.
3. Compensation and Personnel Matters.
4. Administrative Items.

Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 9 a.m. (Open)

1. Remarks of the Chairman of the Board of Governors.
2. Remarks of the Postmaster General and CEO.
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings.
4. Committee Reports.
5. Financial Matters, including FY2021 and Financial Statements, and Annual Report to Congress.
6. FY2022 Integrated Financial Plan and Financing Resolution.
7. FY2023 Congressional Reimbursement Request.
8. Quarterly Service Performance Report.
9. Approval of Tentative Agendas for February 2022 Meetings.
10. Board Leadership.

A public comment period will begin immediately following the adjournment of the open session on November 10, 2021. During the public comment period, which shall not exceed 60

minutes, members of the public may comment on any item or subject listed on the agenda for the open session above. Additionally, the public will be given the option to join the public comment session and participate via teleconference. Registration of speakers at the public comment period is required. Should you wish to participate via teleconference, you will be required to give your first and last name, a valid email address to send an invite and a phone number to reach you should a technical issue arise. Speakers may register online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BOG-11-10-2021>. No more than three minutes shall be allotted to each speaker. The time allotted to each speaker will be determined after registration closes. Registration for the public comment period, either in person or via teleconference, will end on November 8 at 5 p.m. ET. Participation in the public comment period is governed by 39 CFR 232.1(n).

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Michael J. Elston, Secretary of the Board, U.S. Postal Service, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington, DC 20260-1000. Telephone: (202) 268-4800.

Michael J. Elston,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-23654 Filed 10-26-21; 4:15 pm]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-93405; File No. SR-BX-2021-047]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Amend Equity 7, Section 118 To Establish an Enhanced Market Quality Program

October 22, 2021.

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 October 12, 2021, Nasdaq BX, Inc. (“BX” 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 Equity 7, Section 118 to establish an Enhanced Market Quality Program, as described further below.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at <https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/bx/rules>, 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 establish an Enhanced Market Quality Program that is similar to a program that exists (with proposed amendments) on its sister exchange, Nasdaq PHLX, LLC.³ The Enhanced Market Quality Program is intended to provide supplemental incentives to members that meet certain quality standards in acting as market makers for securities on the Exchange. It rewards members that make a significant contribution to market quality by providing liquidity at the national best bid and offer (“NBBO”) in a large number of securities for a significant portion of the day.

Specifically, the Exchange proposes to make a lump sum payment at the end of each month (a “Fixed Payment”) to a member to the extent that the member, through one or more of its MPIDs, quotes at the NBBO for at least a threshold percentage of the time during Market Hours in an average number of securities per day during the month (satisfying the “NBBO requirement”), as

specified below.⁴ On a daily basis, the Exchange will determine the number of securities in which each of a member's MPIDs satisfied the NBBO requirement. The Exchange will aggregate all of a member's MPIDs to determine the number of securities for purposes of the NBBO requirement.

The Exchange proposes to limit the applicability of the Program to the top 1,500 securities in each of Tapes A and B, as determined by their total value traded during the second month prior to the current month (e.g., for October 2021, the measurement period for determining the list will be August 2021).⁵ In doing so, the Exchange seeks to target the Program at securities in Tapes A and B that are most in demand among market participants and which trade extensively, so that an improvement in quoting in those securities would, in turn, stand improve the attractiveness of the Exchange to participants. The Exchange would divide the 1,500 securities into three equal groups (or “Classes”) for each Tape, with the top 500 ranked securities placed in Class 3, the middle 500 ranked securities placed in Class 2, and the lowest ranked 500 securities placed in Class 1. The Exchange would assign Fixed Payment amounts to each of the three Classes in each Tape and in each of the five Tiers, with these amounts generally increasing from Class 1 to Class 3, and from Tiers 1-5. Generally speaking (with exceptions set forth in the schedules below), this proposed structure would provide the largest Fixed Payments to those members that meet the NBBO requirement in the greatest number of qualifying securities and those that trade most extensively, and the lowest incentives to those members that meet the NBBO requirement in the fewest number of qualifying securities and those that trade least extensively.

The Program will be open to all members. A member may but is not

⁴ For purposes of the Enhanced Market Quality Program, a member will be deemed to quote at the NBBO in a security if it quotes a displayed order of at least 100 shares in the security and prices the order at either the national best bid or the national best offer or both the national best bid and offer for the security. Additionally, for a particular Tape A security to count towards the threshold for qualifying for the Fixed Payment on a particular day, and receiving the Fixed Payment, a member has to quote such security at the NBBO for at least 30% of the time during Market Hours on that day. For a particular Tape B security to count towards the threshold for qualifying for the Fixed Payment on a particular day, and receiving the Fixed Payment, a member has to quote such security at the NBBO for at least 50% of the time during Market Hours on that day.

⁵ The Exchange notes that a symbol that did not trade during the measurement month will not be eligible for inclusion in the list.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 34-92754 (August 25, 2021), 86 FR 48789 (August 31, 2021) (SR-Phlx-2021-47). The proposal reflects changes to this program that Nasdaq PHLX, LLC is proposing concurrently with this rule filing.