Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB Number: 3235-0045 Expires: August 31, 2011 Estimated average burden hours per response......38

OMB APPROVAL

| Page 1 of | f * 12 | WASHING | ES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - (ASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Ame | | | | | |
|---|--|----------------|---|-------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| Proposed Rule Change by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority | | | | | | | | |
| Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 | | | | | | | | |
| Initial * ✓ | Amendment * | Withdrawal | Section 19(b) |)(2) * | Section 19(b)(| (3)(A) * | Section 1 | 9(b)(3)(B) * |
| Pilot | Extension of Time Period for Commission Action * | Date Expires * | | | 19b-4(f)(1) | 19b-4(f)(5) | | |
| Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document | | | | | | | | |
| Description Provide a brief description of the proposed rule change (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposed Rule Change to Delay the Implementation date of FINRA Rule 2090 (Know Your Customer) and FINRA Rule 2111 (Suitability) | | | | | | | | |
| Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the proposed rule change. | | | | | | | | |
| First N | ame * James | | Last Name * | Wrona | | | | |
| Title * | Title * Vice President and Associate General Counsel | | | | | | | |
| E-mail * jim.wrona@finra.org | | | | | | | | |
| Telephone * (202) 728-8270 Fax (202) 728-8264 | | | | | | | | |
| Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized officer. Date 04/07/2011 | | | | | | | | |
| Ву | Patrice Gliniecki | | Senior Vice Pr | esident and | d Deputy Gener | al Counsel | | |
| | (Name *) | | | | | | | |
| | | L | | (7 | Title *) | | | |
| 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. | | | | | | | | |

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information (required) clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the Remove View proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing (required) as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Add Remove View 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) Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments. documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall **Transcripts, Other Communications** be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document 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 Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** 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 Add Remove View it has been working. The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** 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 Add Remove View considered part of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** 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 View 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 Proposed Rule Change

- (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "SEA"), ¹ Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a rule change to delay the implementation date for FINRA Rule 2090 (Know Your Customer) and FINRA Rule 2111 (Suitability), as approved in SR-FINRA-2010-039, until July 9, 2012. There are no changes to the text of the rules.
 - (b) Not applicable.
 - (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

At its meeting on February 11, 2009, the FINRA Board of Governors authorized the filing of the proposed rule change with the SEC. No other action by FINRA is necessary for the filing of the proposed rule change. The implementation date for FINRA Rules 2090 and 2111 will be July 9, 2012.

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

(a) Purpose

On November 17, 2010, the SEC approved FINRA's proposal to adopt rules governing know-your-customer and suitability obligations² for the consolidated FINRA rulebook.³ On January 10, 2011, FINRA issued <u>Regulatory Notice</u> 11-02, which

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63325 (November 17, 2010), 75 FR
 71479 (November 23, 2010) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2010-039).

The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA rules; (2) NASD rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE rules") (together, the

provided guidance regarding the new rules and announced an implementation date of October 7, 2011. Following SEC approval of the rules and publication of the Regulatory Notice, numerous firms requested that the approved rules' implementation date be delayed to allow firms additional time to determine the types of systems and procedural changes they need to make, implement those changes, and educate associated persons and supervisors regarding compliance with the rules. FINRA is filing this rule change to move the implementation date for Rules 2090 and 2111 from October 7, 2011, to July 9, 2012, and has filed it as a "non-controversial" rule change that is effective upon filing.

(b) Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,⁴ which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The proposed rule change furthers these purposes because it will allow firms to better prepare procedures and systems and better educate associated persons to comply with the requirements of these important rules.

NASD Rules, and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD rules generally apply to all FINRA member firms, the Incorporated NYSE rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA rules apply to all FINRA member, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see Information Notice, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 780-3(b)(6).

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

FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The proposed rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Act⁵ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder,⁶ in that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; does not impose any significant burden on competition; and does not become operative for 30 days after filing or such shorter time as the Commission may designate.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)⁷ normally may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii)⁸ permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Because FINRA is delaying the implementation of

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3).

⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁷ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

Rules 2090 and 2111 only, FINRA requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay so that this proposed rule change may become operative upon filing.

FINRA notes that firms and their associated persons currently are subject to know-your-customer and suitability obligations. The delay in the implementation date will allow firms to better supervise and educate associated persons regarding new and modified requirements.

In accordance with Rule 19b-4(f)(6), FINRA submitted written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change extending the rules' implementation date, along with a brief description of the proposal, at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, as specified in Rule 19b-4(f)6)(iii) under the Act. ¹⁰

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

Not applicable.

9. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-FINRA-2011-016)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Delay the Implementation date of FINRA Rule 2090 (Know Your Customer) and FINRA Rule 2111 (Suitability)

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 , Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. FINRA has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a "non-controversial" rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,³ which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

FINRA is proposing a rule change to delay the implementation date for FINRA Rule 2090 (Know Your Customer) and FINRA Rule 2111 (Suitability), as approved in SR-FINRA-2010-039, until July 9, 2012.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA's Web site at http://www.finra.org, at the principal office of FINRA and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

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

- A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u>
 <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>
- 1. Purpose

On November 17, 2010, the SEC approved FINRA's proposal to adopt rules governing know-your-customer and suitability obligations⁴ for the consolidated FINRA rulebook.⁵ On January 10, 2011, FINRA issued <u>Regulatory Notice</u> 11-02, which provided guidance regarding the new rules and announced an implementation date of October 7, 2011. Following SEC approval of the rules and publication of the <u>Regulatory</u>

 <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 63325 (November 17, 2010), 75 FR
 71479 (November 23, 2010) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2010-039).

The current FINRA rulebook consists of (1) FINRA rules; (2) NASD rules; and (3) rules incorporated from NYSE ("Incorporated NYSE rules") (together, the NASD Rules, and Incorporated NYSE Rules are referred to as the "Transitional Rulebook"). While the NASD rules generally apply to all FINRA member firms, the Incorporated NYSE rules apply only to those members of FINRA that are also members of the NYSE ("Dual Members"). The FINRA rules apply to all FINRA member, unless such rules have a more limited application by their terms. For more information about the rulebook consolidation process, see Information Notice, March 12, 2008 (Rulebook Consolidation Process).

Notice, numerous firms requested that the approved rules' implementation date be delayed to allow firms additional time to determine the types of systems and procedural changes they need to make, implement those changes, and educate associated persons and supervisors regarding compliance with the rules. FINRA is filing this rule change to move the implementation date for Rules 2090 and 2111 from October 7, 2011, to July 9, 2012, and has filed it as a "non-controversial" rule change that is effective upon filing.

2. Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,⁶ which requires, among other things, that FINRA rules must be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. The proposed rule change furthers these purposes because it will allow firms to better prepare procedures and systems and better educate associated persons to comply with the requirements of these important rules.

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

 FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.
 - C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-3(b)(6).

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u> 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) of the Act⁷ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.⁸

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally may not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. However, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. Because FINRA is delaying the implementation of Rules 2090 and 2111 only, FINRA requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay so that this proposed rule change may become operative upon filing.

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. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁸ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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-FINRA-2011-016 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary,
 Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2011-016. 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 Web site (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 Web site 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 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of FINRA. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2011-016 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. ¹¹

Elizabeth M. Murphy

Secretary

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).