Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response.......38

Page 1 of * 16 SECURITIES AI WASH				WASHING	EXCHANGE GTON, D.C. 2 orm 19b-4		Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)			
Proposed Rule Change by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority										
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934										
Initial ³	al * Amendment *		Wit	hdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *		Section 19(b)(3)(A) * Rule		Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot		ension of Time Period Commission Action *	Da	ate Expires *	19b-4(f)(1)	19b-4(f)(2)	19b-4(f)(3)	19b-4(f)(4)	19b-4(f)(5)	19b-4(f)(6)
Exhibit 2	Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Pa				er Document					
Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Implementation of FINRA Rule 4240 (Margin Requirements for Credit Default Swaps) 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 Name *		Adam			Last Name * Arkel					
Title *		Assistant General Co	l							
E-mail *		adam.arkel@finra.org								
Teleph	none *	(202) 728-6961	Fax	(202) 728-8264	1					
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 07/13/2012 By Patrice Gliniecki (Name *) Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel (Title *)										
this form	n. A dig	the button at right will digit ital signature is as legally b once signed, this form cann	inding	as a physical		Patrice (Gliniecki,			

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. Form 19b-4 Information (required) The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful Add Remove View 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. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published (required) 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 Add Remove View 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 be **Transcripts, Other Communications** 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.

of the proposed rule change.

Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text

View

Remove

Partial Amendment

Add

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

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. <u>Text of Proposed Rule Change</u>

- (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "SEA" or "Exchange Act"), ¹ Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to extend to July 17, 2013 the implementation of FINRA Rule 4240. FINRA Rule 4240 implements an interim pilot program with respect to margin requirements for certain transactions in credit default swaps that are security-based swaps. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.
 - (b) Not applicable.
 - (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

At its meeting on February 16, 2012, 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.

FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, such that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change immediately. The proposed rule change will expire on July 17, 2013.

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

(a) Purpose

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¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

On May 22, 2009, the Commission approved FINRA Rule 4240,² which implements an interim pilot program (the "Interim Pilot Program") with respect to margin requirements for certain transactions in credit default swaps ("CDS").³ On March 7, 2012, the Commission approved extending the implementation of Rule 4240 to July 17, 2012.⁴

As explained in the Approval Order, FINRA Rule 4240, coterminous with certain Commission actions, was intended to address concerns arising from systemic risk posed by CDS, including, among other things, risks to the financial system arising from the lack of a central clearing counterparty to clear and settle CDS.⁵ On July 21, 2010, President Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), Title VII of which established a comprehensive new regulatory framework for swaps and security-based swaps. including certain CDS. The

See Exchange Act Release No. 59955 (May 22, 2009), 74 FR 25586 (May 28, 2009) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2009-012) ("Approval Order").

In March 2012, the SEC approved amendments to FINRA Rule 4240 that, among other things, limit at this time the rule's application to credit default swaps that are security-based swaps. See Exchange Act Release No. 66527 (March 7, 2012), 77 FR 14850 (March 13, 2012) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2012-015).

See Exchange Act Release No. 66528 (March 7, 2012), 77 FR 14848 (March 13, 2012) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2012-014).

⁵ <u>See</u> 74 FR at 25588-89.

⁶ Pub. L. No. 111-203, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010).

The terms "swap" and "security-based swap" are defined in Sections 721 and 761 of the Dodd-Frank Act. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and the Commission jointly have approved rules to further define these terms.

See SEC File No. S7-16-11 (Joint Final Rule; Interpretations: Further Definition

new legislation was intended, among other things, to enhance the authority of regulators to implement new rules designed to reduce risk, increase transparency, and promote market integrity with respect to such products.

Pursuant to Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Act, the CFTC and the Commission are engaged in ongoing rulemaking with respect to swaps and security-based swaps.⁸ FINRA believes it is appropriate to extend the Interim Pilot Program for a limited period, to July 17, 2013, in light of the continuing development of the CDS business within the framework of the Dodd-Frank Act and pending the final implementation of new CFTC and SEC rules pursuant to Title VII of that legislation.

As noted in Item 2 of this filing, FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, such that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change immediately. The proposed rule change will expire on July 17, 2013.

(b) Statutory Basis

of "Swap," "Security-Based Swap," and "Security-Based Swap Agreement"; Mixed Swaps; Security-Based Swap Agreement Recordkeeping), available at: http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-130.htm. See also Exchange Act Release No. 66868 (April 27, 2012), 77 FR 30596 (May 23, 2012) (Joint Final Rule; Joint Interim Final Rule; Interpretations: Further Definition of "Swap Dealer," "Security-Based Swap Dealer," "Major Swap Participant," "Major Security-Based Swap Participant" and "Eligible Contract Participant").

See, e.g., supra note 7 and Exchange Act Release No. 67177 (June 11, 2012), 77
 FR 35625 (June 14, 2012) (Statement of General Policy on the Sequencing of the Compliance Dates for Final Rules Applicable to Security-Based Swaps).

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act, ⁹ 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. FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will further the purposes of the Act because, consistent with the goals set forth by the Commission when it adopted the interim final temporary rules with respect to the operation of central counterparties to clear and settle CDS, and pending the final implementation of new CFTC and SEC rules pursuant to Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Act, the margin requirements set forth by the proposed rule change will help to stabilize the financial markets.

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> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

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>

^{9 15} U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

The proposed rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) of the Act¹⁰ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder,¹¹ 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.

FINRA requests that the Commission waive the requirement that the rule change, by its terms, not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing as set forth in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), 12 such that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change immediately.

FINRA requests that the Commission waive the five-day pre-filing notice requirement specified in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) under the Act.¹³ FINRA proposes to make the proposed rule change operative on July 17, 2012.

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 Federal Register.

Exhibit 5. Text of proposed rule change.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

¹² 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-FINRA-2012-035)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Implementation of FINRA Rule 4240 (Margin Requirements for Credit Default Swaps)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "SEA" or "Exchange Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on [SPACE], 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 to extend to July 17, 2013 the implementation of FINRA Rule 4240. FINRA Rule 4240 implements an interim pilot program with respect to margin requirements for certain transactions in credit default swaps that are security-based swaps.

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 website 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 May 22, 2009, the Commission approved FINRA Rule 4240,⁴ which implements an interim pilot program (the "Interim Pilot Program") with respect to margin requirements for certain transactions in credit default swaps ("CDS").⁵ On March 7, 2012, the SEC approved extending the implementation of Rule 4240 to July 17, 2012.⁶

See Exchange Act Release No. 59955 (May 22, 2009), 74 FR 25586 (May 28, 2009) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2009-012) ("Approval Order").

In March 2012, the SEC approved amendments to FINRA Rule 4240 that, among other things, limit at this time the rule's application to credit default swaps that are security-based swaps. See Exchange Act Release No. 66527 (March 7, 2012), 77 FR 14850 (March 13, 2012) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2012-015).

See Exchange Act Release No. 66528 (March 7, 2012), 77 FR 14848 (March 13, 2012) (Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change; File No. SR-FINRA-2012-014).

As explained in the Approval Order, FINRA Rule 4240, coterminous with certain Commission actions, was intended to address concerns arising from systemic risk posed by CDS, including, among other things, risks to the financial system arising from the lack of a central clearing counterparty to clear and settle CDS.⁷ On July 21, 2010, President Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the "Dodd-Frank Act"),⁸ Title VII of which established a comprehensive new regulatory framework for swaps and security-based swaps,⁹ including certain CDS. The new legislation was intended, among other things, to enhance the authority of regulators to implement new rules designed to reduce risk, increase transparency, and promote market integrity with respect to such products.

Pursuant to Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Act, the CFTC and the Commission are engaged in ongoing rulemaking with respect to swaps and security-based swaps.¹⁰ FINRA believes it is appropriate to extend the Interim Pilot Program for a limited period,

⁷ See 74 FR at 25588-89.

⁸ Pub. L. No. 111-203, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010).

The terms "swap" and "security-based swap" are defined in Sections 721 and 761 of the Dodd-Frank Act. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and the Commission jointly have approved rules to further define these terms.

See SEC File No. S7-16-11 (Joint Final Rule; Interpretations: Further Definition of "Swap," "Security-Based Swap," and "Security-Based Swap Agreement"; Mixed Swaps; Security-Based Swap Agreement Recordkeeping), available at: http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-130.htm. See also Exchange Act Release No. 66868 (April 27, 2012), 77 FR 30596 (May 23, 2012) (Joint Final Rule; Joint Interim Final Rule; Interpretations: Further Definition of "Swap Dealer," "Security-Based Swap Dealer," "Major Swap Participant," "Major Security-Based Swap Participant" and "Eligible Contract Participant").

See, e.g., supra note 9 and Exchange Act Release No. 67177 (June 11, 2012), 77
 FR 35625 (June 14, 2012) (Statement of General Policy on the Sequencing of the Compliance Dates for Final Rules Applicable to Security-Based Swap).

to July 17, 2013, in light of the continuing development of the CDS business within the framework of the Dodd-Frank Act and pending the final implementation of new CFTC and SEC rules pursuant to Title VII of that legislation.

FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and has requested that the SEC waive the requirement that the proposed rule change not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, such that FINRA can implement the proposed rule change immediately. The proposed rule change will expire on July 17, 2013.

2. **Statutory Basis**

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act, 11 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. FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will further the purposes of the Act because, consistent with the goals set forth by the Commission when it adopted the interim final temporary rules with respect to the operation of central counterparties to clear and settle CDS, and pending the final implementation of new CFTC and SEC rules pursuant to Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Act, the margin requirements set forth by the proposed rule change will help to stabilize the financial markets.

¹¹ 15 U.S.C. 78o-3(b)(6).

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> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action</u>

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 Act¹² and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹³

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.

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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-2012-035 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-2012-035. 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 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-2012-035 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. 14

Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is underlined; proposed deletions are in brackets.

* * * * *

4000. FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL RULES

* * * * *

4200. MARGIN

* * * * *

4240. Margin Requirements for Credit Default Swaps

(a) Effective Period of Interim Pilot Program

This Rule establishes an interim pilot program ("Interim Pilot Program") with respect to margin requirements for any transactions in credit default swaps executed by a member (regardless of the type of account in which the transaction is booked), including those in which the offsetting matching hedging transactions ("matching transactions") are effected by the member in contracts that are cleared through a clearing agency that provides central counterparty clearing services using a margin methodology the use of which has been approved by FINRA as announced in a Regulatory Notice. The Interim Pilot Program shall automatically expire on July 17, [2012] 2013. For purposes of this Rule, the term "credit default swap" ("CDS") shall include any product that is commonly known to the trade as a credit default swap and is a security-based swap as defined pursuant to Section 3(a)(68) of the Exchange Act or the rules and guidance of the SEC and its staff. The term "transaction" shall include any ongoing CDS position.

(b) through (e) No Change.

••• Supplementary Material: -----

.01 No Change.

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