Est							OMB Number: 3235-0045 Estimated average burden hours per response
Page 1 c	of * 34		EXCHANGE GTON, D.C. 2 form 19b-4			File No. nent No. (req. for	* SR - 2015 - * 043 Amendments *)
Filing by Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	\checkmark	19(b)(3)(A) * Rule	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *			19b-4(f)(1) 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(3)) 19b-4(f)(5)	
	of proposed change pursuant n 806(e)(1) *	to the Payment, Clean Section 806(e)(2) *	-	ment Act of 2			vap Submission pursuant change Act of 1934 (2) *
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document							
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Reporting of OTC Transactions in Exchange-Traded Managed Fund Shares (NextShares) to FINRA							
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 action.							
First N	lame * Lisa		Last Name *	Horrigan			
Title *	* Associate General Counsel						
E-mail	E-mail * lisa.horrigan@finra.org						
Teleph	none * (202) 728-8190	Fax (202) 728-826	4				
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.							
				(T	ïtle *)		
Date	10/15/2015			resident and	Director	of Capital Marke	ts
Ву	Stephanie Dumont		Policy				
(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.							

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 * Add Remove View	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.					
Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire 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.					

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

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to adopt Rule 6184 (Transactions in Exchange-Traded Managed Fund Shares ("NextShares")) relating to the reporting of over-the-counter ("OTC") transactions in exchange-traded managed fund shares, which have been approved by the SEC for listing and trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq"). Exchange-traded managed fund shares are referred to under Nasdaq rules and herein as "NextShares."

The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

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

The Executive Committee of the Board of Governors of FINRA authorized the filing of the proposed rule change with the SEC by action dated August 25, 2015. 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 proposes that the operative date will be the date announced by Nasdaq for commencement of listing and trading of NextShares on the Nasdaq exchange under Nasdaq rules, which is currently anticipated to be on or about February 1, 2016.

15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

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

(a) Purpose

Background

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In November 2014, the SEC approved a proposed rule change filed by Nasdaq to adopt Nasdaq Rule 5745 governing the listing and trading of NextShares.² As described more fully in Nasdaq's filing, NextShares will trade in the secondary market using a new trading protocol called "NAV-Based Trading." In NAV-Based Trading, all bids, offers and execution prices will be expressed as a premium or discount (which may be zero) to the fund's next-determined net asset value per share ("NAV"), e.g., NAV-\$0.01 or NAV+\$0.01. A NextShares Fund's NAV will be determined each business day after the close of trading. All trades will be binding at the time of execution, with the transaction prices contingent upon the determination of the NAV at the end of the trading day.³

³ Thus, because in NAV-Based Trading, prices of executed trades are not determined until the reference NAV is calculated, buyers and sellers of NextShares will not know the final value of their purchases and sales until the end of the trading day.

<u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73562 (November 7, 2014), 79 FR 68309 (November 14, 2014) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 1 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of File No. SR-NASDAQ-2014-020).

In SR-NASDAQ-2014-020, Nasdaq used the terms "ETMF" and "ETMF Shares." On October 13, 2015, Nasdaq filed a proposed rule change to amend Nasdaq Rule 5745 to replace these terms with "NextShares Fund" and "NextShares," respectively. <u>See</u> SR-NASDAQ-2015-121, available at <u>nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com/NASDAQ/pdf/nasdaq-filings/2015/SR-NASDAQ-</u> 2015-121.pdf.

Pursuant to Nasdaq Rule 5745, trading in NextShares is limited to Nasdaq's Regular Market Session through 4:00 p.m.⁴

In its filing with the SEC, Nasdaq explained that, because existing order transmission and processing systems commonly used by exchanges and firms are generally not designed to accommodate pricing arrangements such as NAV-Based Trading, the prices of NextShares trades and quotes will be represented intraday using a "proxy price" format. In proxy price format, a NextShares Fund's next-determined NAV will be represented as 100.00. A premium or discount of a stated amount to the nextdetermined NAV will be represented by the same increment or decrement from 100, e.g., NAV-\$0.01 will be represented as 99.99, and NAV+\$0.01 will be represented as 100.01. Nasdaq will report intraday bids, offers and trades for NextShares in real-time to the consolidated tape using the proxy price format. However, the trade will not clear and settle at the price expressed in the proxy price format. After a NextShares Fund's NAV has been calculated at the end of the trading day, Nasdaq will price each trade executed on the exchange at the NAV (plus or minus any premium or discount) and will send the final pricing information to the National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") for clearance and settlement.

Under Nasdaq Rule 5745, the Intraday Indicative Value ("IIV") of a NextShares Fund is the estimated intraday value of a fund share based on current information regarding the value of the securities and other assets held by the fund. Nasdaq's rule requires that IIVs for each NextShares Fund be widely disseminated by one or more

⁴ As explained in SR-NASDAQ-2014-020, Nasdaq Rule 4120(b)(4) defines "Regular Market Session" as the trading session from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or 4:15 p.m.; NextShares will trade until 4:00 p.m.

major market data vendors at intervals of not more than 15 minutes throughout Nasdaq's Regular Market Session.

On July 21, 2015, the SEC approved Nasdaq's filing proposing to list and trade the shares of 18 NextShares Funds, each of which is registered as an open-end investment company.⁵ Nasdaq recently announced that it has completed systems development to support the listing and trading of NextShares and will announce the exact listing and trading date soon.⁶ As noted above, it is anticipated that this date will be on or about February 1, 2016.

Proposed FINRA Rule 6184

Because NextShares are NMS stocks, FINRA, as the self-regulatory organization ("SRO") with responsibility for the OTC market, must support OTC trading in NextShares, and FINRA members that trade NextShares OTC will be required to report such transactions to FINRA. Thus, existing trade reporting requirements applicable to OTC transactions in NMS stocks will apply to OTC transactions in NextShares, including, for example, the requirement to report the trade as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 seconds, following execution.⁷

Pursuant to paragraph (a) of proposed Rule 6184, members that execute secondary market transactions in NextShares OTC must report such transactions for

 ⁵ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 75499 (July 21, 2015), 80 FR 44406 (July 27, 2015) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASDAQ-2015-036).

⁶ <u>See</u> Equity Trader Alert #2015 – 144: Nasdaq Completes Proprietary Platform Development to Support NextShares ETMFs (September 14, 2015), available at <u>www.nasdaqtrader.com/TraderNews.aspx?id=ETA2015-144</u>. In its announcement, Nasdaq indicated that the initial product listing and introduction is subject to FINRA, DTCC and broker-dealer readiness.

⁷ <u>See, e.g.</u>, Rules 6282(a) and 6380A(a).

public dissemination or regulatory purposes to the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility ("FINRA/Nasdaq TRF") or the Alternative Display Facility ("ADF") in accordance with the proposed Rule and the rules applicable to the trade reporting facility used by the reporting member.⁸ NYSE, as the Business Member under its TRF Limited Liability Company agreement with FINRA, has determined that the FINRA/NYSE Trade Reporting Facility will not support the reporting of these transactions at this time. In addition, pursuant to paragraph (d)(1) of proposed Rule 6184, OTC transactions in NextShares can only be designated for submission by FINRA to NSCC for clearance and settlement through the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF; otherwise, members that execute such transactions must have an alternative means of clearing (e.g., via direct Qualified Special Representative or "QSR" submission to NSCC).⁹

Given the unique nature of NAV-Based Trading, FINRA is proposing the following specific requirements for reporting OTC transactions in NextShares to FINRA under proposed Rule 6184. First, as noted above, Nasdaq Rule 5745 limits trading in NextShares to Nasdaq's Regular Market Session. Accordingly, pursuant to paragraph (b) of proposed Rule 6184, trades in NextShares reported with an execution time outside of Regular Market Session hours will be rejected by the FINRA trade reporting facility.

Second, pursuant to paragraph (c) of the proposed Rule, except as otherwise expressly provided, members must use the above-described proxy price format on all reports of transactions in NextShares submitted to FINRA, including all tape and nontape reports, intraday clearing reports, as/of reports and reports of reversals.

⁹ The ADF will not support the clearing of such transactions at this time.

⁸ <u>See, e.g.</u>, the Rule 6200 and 7100 Series applicable to the ADF and the Rule 6300A and 7200A Series applicable to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF.

Third, pursuant to paragraph (d)(2)(A) of the proposed Rule, members that report transactions in NextShares for submission by the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF to NSCC for clearance and settlement must submit two clearing reports: (1) the member must submit a clearing report intraday in the proxy price format in accordance with paragraph (c);¹⁰ and (2) following publication of the NextShares Fund's NAV at the end of the day, the member also must submit a "Clearing Copy" report to reflect the final NAV-based trade price, in accordance with the following requirements set forth in paragraph (d)(2)(B) of the proposed Rule.

First, the Clearing Copy report must be submitted before the close of the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF on the same day as submission of the transaction in the proxy price format to ensure that the transaction is included in NSCC's end of day processing. Second, consistent with current FINRA rules,¹¹ a Clearing Copy report should only be submitted to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF if the transaction was originally reported to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF in the proxy price format. In other words, a member cannot report a trade for dissemination purposes to the ADF and for clearing purposes to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF. Third, the Clearing Copy report must contain (1) the unique indicator specified by FINRA to denote a Clearing Copy report, and (2) the control number of the original trade report assigned by the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF. Such information will allow FINRA to link the Clearing Copy report to the associated trade report in the proxy price format. Fourth, members are expressly prohibited from

¹⁰ Members must not wait until the NAV is published to submit transactions for clearing, because, as explained below and in the proposed Supplementary Material, all clearing submissions will be sent intraday to NSCC for risk management purposes.

¹¹ <u>See, e.g.</u>, Rule 7230A(i).

aggregating multiple OTC transactions in NextShares in a single Clearing Copy report. In other words, members must submit a separate Clearing Copy report for each transaction originally reported in the proxy price format. Fifth, the proposed Rule clarifies that following submission of the Clearing Copy report, the member is not required to cancel the initial clearing submission for the same transaction in the proxy price format.

Finally, pursuant to paragraph (d)(2)(C) of the proposed Rule, clearing reports for the purpose of transferring a position related to a previously executed trade, such as stepouts,¹² must reflect the final NAV-based trade price, if submitted after publication of the NAV. In this instance, two clearing reports would not be required, and members would submit only a single clearing report (which would not be a Clearing Copy report) at the final trade price.

The proposed Supplementary Material provides additional guidance for members on reporting in the proxy price format, as well as the process for the submission of OTC transactions in NextShares to NSCC intraday before the final trade price is known. Specifically, in accordance with NSCC requirements, the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF will calculate the contract price of the trade based on the last published IIV and submit the transaction in real-time to NSCC for purposes of intraday risk management. The transaction will not clear and settle at the IIV-based price, but instead at the final NAV-

¹² A step-out allows a member firm to allocate all or part of a client's position from a previously executed trade to the client's account at another broker-dealer. In other words, a step-out functions as a client's position transfer, rather than a trade; there is no exchange of shares and funds and no change in beneficial ownership. <u>See, e.g.</u>, Trade Reporting FAQ 301.1, available at <u>www.finra.org/industry/tradereporting-faq#301</u>.

based trade price submitted by the reporting member in accordance with paragraph (d)(2)(B) described above.

The proposed Supplementary Material also clarifies that members that clear directly at NSCC (and do not elect to have the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF submit trades on their behalf for clearance and settlement) must provide final pricing information for their executed trades to NSCC after the NAV is published, in accordance with NSCC requirements. FINRA will not do so on behalf of the member.

FINRA notes that the staff discussed the proposed trade reporting requirements with two of its industry advisory committees, which generally indicated that the proposed approach to OTC trade reporting was reasonable. Committee members also acknowledged that firms would be required to make some systems changes for both trading and trade reporting purposes due to the unique nature of the NAV-Based Trading protocol. While some committee members indicated that they may not accept customer orders in NextShares due to the complexity of the product, other members felt that if there was customer demand, they would have to support trading in NextShares. However, FINRA notes that firms would not necessarily have to execute trades OTC, but could route to an exchange or another FINRA member for execution, and in that instance, would not be responsible for reporting the trade to FINRA.

As noted in Item 2 of this filing, FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and proposes that the operative date will be the date announced by Nasdaq for commencement of listing and trading of NextShares on the Nasdaq exchange under Nasdaq rules, which is currently anticipated to be on or about February 1, 2016. FINRA believes that the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF and members alike will have sufficient time to make and test the necessary systems changes to ensure systems readiness by the operative date.¹³

(b) Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,¹⁴ 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 is consistent with the Act because it requires that OTC transactions in NextShares, which are NMS stocks approved by the Commission, be reported to FINRA, in furtherance of FINRA's obligations as the SRO with responsibility for the OTC market. The proposed rule change will ensure that OTC transactions in NextShares are reported to FINRA in a uniform manner, consistent with current trade reporting rules applicable to OTC transactions in other NMS stocks. Among other things, the proposed rule change will ensure that trade data relating to OTC transactions in NextShares is disseminated to the consolidated tape and incorporated in FINRA's audit trail, and will facilitate the clearance and settlement of OTC transactions in NextShares.

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-3(b)(6).

¹³ FINRA notes that currently there are no participants on the ADF, and FINRA does not anticipate there being an active ADF participant by the current NextShares implementation date of February 1, 2016, given the steps and timeframes required for the on-boarding of a new ADF participant. <u>See, e.g.</u>, Securities Exchange Act Release No. 71407 (January 27, 2014), 79 FR 5472 (January 31, 2014) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2013-031 relating to participation on the ADF).

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.

The proposed rule change proposes specific trade reporting requirements for OTC transactions in NextShares, which are NMS stocks that have been approved and determined by the Commission to be consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act.¹⁵ FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will have no impact on many members. As an initial matter, on average, only several hundred firms execute and report OTC equity trades to FINRA on a regular basis.¹⁶ Many firms, including smaller firms, route their order flow to another firm, e.g., their clearing firm, for execution, and as the routing firm, they do not have the trade reporting obligation. Thus, the universe of FINRA members that report OTC trades today is a small fraction of overall FINRA members.¹⁷ Moreover, members will not be required to trade in NextShares and could

¹⁵ In approving SR-NASDAQ-2014-020, the Commission stated that it considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition and capital formation. <u>See</u> 79 FR at 68315, fn 72.

¹⁶ FINRA trade reporting rules require that for transactions between members, the "executing party" report the trade to FINRA. For transactions between a member and a non-member or customer, the member must report the trade. "Executing party" is defined under FINRA rules as the member that receives an order for handling or execution or is presented an order against its quote, does not subsequently re-route the order, and executes the transaction.

¹⁷ FINRA notes that in its filings, Nasdaq did not provide an estimate of the number of firms that would be likely to trade NextShares on the exchange or the anticipated trading volume in NextShares. Accordingly, FINRA has no benchmark on which to base any reasonable estimates of the likely number of FINRA members that may elect to execute OTC transactions in NextShares (and would therefore be required to report those transactions pursuant to this proposed rule change) or the likely OTC volume in these products.

elect not to accept a customer order for NextShares. Alternatively, firms could route orders for NextShares to the Nasdaq exchange or another FINRA member for execution and reporting.

Nonetheless, members that choose to execute OTC transactions in NextShares will need to make systems changes to comply with the proposed amendments, including coding changes to accommodate the submission of Clearing Copy reports for firms that elect to clear through the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF. In addition, firms will need to adopt policies and procedures relating to the trading and reporting of such transactions. Firms will incur costs to implement and test these changes. While these costs may vary by firm (depending, for example, on the level of sophistication of a firm's technology and trading and reporting platforms), as noted above, firms will not be required to trade in NextShares. Therefore, each firm can determine for itself whether the costs of implementing the changes necessary to support OTC trading in NextShares are warranted. Additionally, as noted above, two of FINRA's industry advisory committees indicated that they believe the proposed trade reporting requirements are reasonable. As such, FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose significant or differential costs on similarly situated firms.

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.

6. <u>Extension of Time Period for Commission Action</u>

Not applicable.

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

The proposed rule change is effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁸ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder,¹⁹ 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 believes that the filing is appropriately designated as "non-controversial" because the proposed rule change would adopt trade reporting requirements for OTC transactions in NextShares, which have been approved by the Commission for listing and trading on the Nasdaq exchange. FINRA believes that the proposed rule change proposes reasonable trade reporting requirements for OTC transactions in these securities and that firms would not find compliance with such requirements to be burdensome. Moreover, the proposed requirements would apply only to members that choose to trade NextShares OTC. As such, each firm can determine for itself whether the costs of implementing the changes necessary to support OTC trading in NextShares are warranted.

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

Not applicable.

9. <u>Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act</u> Not applicable.

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

Not applicable.

11. <u>Exhibits</u>

Exhibit 1. Completed notice of proposed rule change for publication in the

Federal Register.

Exhibit 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-FINRA-2015-043)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Reporting of OTC Transactions in Exchange-Traded Managed Fund Shares (NextShares) to FINRA

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, II, and III 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</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

FINRA is proposing to adopt Rule 6184 (Transactions in Exchange-Traded Managed Fund Shares ("NextShares")) relating to the reporting of over-the-counter ("OTC") transactions in exchange-traded managed fund shares, which have been approved by the SEC for listing and trading on the Nasdaq Stock Market LLC

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

("Nasdaq"). Exchange-traded managed fund shares are referred to under Nasdaq rules and herein as "NextShares."

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA's website at <u>http://www.finra.org</u>, 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

Background

In November 2014, the SEC approved a proposed rule change filed by Nasdaq to

adopt Nasdaq Rule 5745 governing the listing and trading of NextShares.⁴ As described

more fully in Nasdaq's filing, NextShares will trade in the secondary market using a new

 <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73562 (November 7, 2014), 79 FR
68309 (November 14, 2014) (Notice of Filing of Amendment No. 1 and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of File No. SR-NASDAQ-2014-020).

In SR-NASDAQ-2014-020, Nasdaq used the terms "ETMF" and "ETMF Shares." On October 13, 2015, Nasdaq filed a proposed rule change to amend Nasdaq Rule 5745 to replace these terms with "NextShares Fund" and "NextShares," respectively. <u>See</u> SR-NASDAQ-2015-121, available at <u>nasdaq.cchwallstreet.com/NASDAQ/pdf/nasdaq-filings/2015/SR-NASDAQ-2015-121.pdf</u>.

trading protocol called "NAV-Based Trading." In NAV-Based Trading, all bids, offers and execution prices will be expressed as a premium or discount (which may be zero) to the fund's next-determined net asset value per share ("NAV"), e.g., NAV-\$0.01 or NAV+\$0.01. A NextShares Fund's NAV will be determined each business day after the close of trading. All trades will be binding at the time of execution, with the transaction prices contingent upon the determination of the NAV at the end of the trading day.⁵ Pursuant to Nasdaq Rule 5745, trading in NextShares is limited to Nasdaq's Regular Market Session through 4:00 p.m.⁶

In its filing with the SEC, Nasdaq explained that, because existing order transmission and processing systems commonly used by exchanges and firms are generally not designed to accommodate pricing arrangements such as NAV-Based Trading, the prices of NextShares trades and quotes will be represented intraday using a "proxy price" format. In proxy price format, a NextShares Fund's next-determined NAV will be represented as 100.00. A premium or discount of a stated amount to the nextdetermined NAV will be represented by the same increment or decrement from 100, e.g., NAV-\$0.01 will be represented as 99.99, and NAV+\$0.01 will be represented as 100.01. Nasdaq will report intraday bids, offers and trades for NextShares in real-time to the consolidated tape using the proxy price format. However, the trade will not clear and settle at the price expressed in the proxy price format. After a NextShares Fund's NAV

⁵ Thus, because in NAV-Based Trading, prices of executed trades are not determined until the reference NAV is calculated, buyers and sellers of NextShares will not know the final value of their purchases and sales until the end of the trading day.

⁶ As explained in SR-NASDAQ-2014-020, Nasdaq Rule 4120(b)(4) defines "Regular Market Session" as the trading session from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. or 4:15 p.m.; NextShares will trade until 4:00 p.m.

has been calculated at the end of the trading day, Nasdaq will price each trade executed on the exchange at the NAV (plus or minus any premium or discount) and will send the final pricing information to the National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") for clearance and settlement.

Under Nasdaq Rule 5745, the Intraday Indicative Value ("IIV") of a NextShares Fund is the estimated intraday value of a fund share based on current information regarding the value of the securities and other assets held by the fund. Nasdaq's rule requires that IIVs for each NextShares Fund be widely disseminated by one or more major market data vendors at intervals of not more than 15 minutes throughout Nasdaq's Regular Market Session.

On July 21, 2015, the SEC approved Nasdaq's filing proposing to list and trade the shares of 18 NextShares Funds, each of which is registered as an open-end investment company.⁷ Nasdaq recently announced that it has completed systems development to support the listing and trading of NextShares and will announce the exact listing and trading date soon.⁸ As noted above, it is anticipated that this date will be on or about February 1, 2016.

Proposed FINRA Rule 6184

Because NextShares are NMS stocks, FINRA, as the self-regulatory organization ("SRO") with responsibility for the OTC market, must support OTC trading in

 ⁷ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 75499 (July 21, 2015), 80 FR 44406 (July 27, 2015) (Order Approving File No. SR-NASDAQ-2015-036).

 <u>See</u> Equity Trader Alert #2015 – 144: Nasdaq Completes Proprietary Platform Development to Support NextShares ETMFs (September 14, 2015), available at <u>www.nasdaqtrader.com/TraderNews.aspx?id=ETA2015-144</u>. In its announcement, Nasdaq indicated that the initial product listing and introduction is subject to FINRA, DTCC and broker-dealer readiness.

NextShares, and FINRA members that trade NextShares OTC will be required to report such transactions to FINRA. Thus, existing trade reporting requirements applicable to OTC transactions in NMS stocks will apply to OTC transactions in NextShares, including, for example, the requirement to report the trade as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 seconds, following execution.⁹

Pursuant to paragraph (a) of proposed Rule 6184, members that execute secondary market transactions in NextShares OTC must report such transactions for public dissemination or regulatory purposes to the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility ("FINRA/Nasdaq TRF") or the Alternative Display Facility ("ADF") in accordance with the proposed Rule and the rules applicable to the trade reporting facility used by the reporting member.¹⁰ NYSE, as the Business Member under its TRF Limited Liability Company agreement with FINRA, has determined that the FINRA/NYSE Trade Reporting Facility will not support the reporting of these transactions at this time. In addition, pursuant to paragraph (d)(1) of proposed Rule 6184, OTC transactions in NextShares can only be designated for submission by FINRA to NSCC for clearance and settlement through the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF; otherwise, members that execute such transactions must have an alternative means of clearing (e.g., via direct Qualified Special Reporesentative or "QSR" submission to NSCC).¹¹

Given the unique nature of NAV-Based Trading, FINRA is proposing the following specific requirements for reporting OTC transactions in NextShares to FINRA

⁹ <u>See, e.g.</u>, Rules 6282(a) and 6380A(a).

¹⁰ <u>See, e.g.</u>, the Rule 6200 and 7100 Series applicable to the ADF and the Rule 6300A and 7200A Series applicable to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF.

¹¹ The ADF will not support the clearing of such transactions at this time.

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under proposed Rule 6184. First, as noted above, Nasdaq Rule 5745 limits trading in NextShares to Nasdaq's Regular Market Session. Accordingly, pursuant to paragraph (b) of proposed Rule 6184, trades in NextShares reported with an execution time outside of Regular Market Session hours will be rejected by the FINRA trade reporting facility.

Second, pursuant to paragraph (c) of the proposed Rule, except as otherwise expressly provided, members must use the above-described proxy price format on all reports of transactions in NextShares submitted to FINRA, including all tape and nontape reports, intraday clearing reports, as/of reports and reports of reversals.

Third, pursuant to paragraph (d)(2)(A) of the proposed Rule, members that report transactions in NextShares for submission by the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF to NSCC for clearance and settlement must submit two clearing reports: (1) the member must submit a clearing report intraday in the proxy price format in accordance with paragraph (c);¹² and (2) following publication of the NextShares Fund's NAV at the end of the day, the member also must submit a "Clearing Copy" report to reflect the final NAV-based trade price, in accordance with the following requirements set forth in paragraph (d)(2)(B) of the proposed Rule.

First, the Clearing Copy report must be submitted before the close of the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF on the same day as submission of the transaction in the proxy price format to ensure that the transaction is included in NSCC's end of day processing. Second, consistent with current FINRA rules,¹³ a Clearing Copy report should only be

¹² Members must not wait until the NAV is published to submit transactions for clearing, because, as explained below and in the proposed Supplementary Material, all clearing submissions will be sent intraday to NSCC for risk management purposes.

¹³ <u>See, e.g.</u>, Rule 7230A(i).

submitted to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF if the transaction was originally reported to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF in the proxy price format. In other words, a member cannot report a trade for dissemination purposes to the ADF and for clearing purposes to the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF. Third, the Clearing Copy report must contain (1) the unique indicator specified by FINRA to denote a Clearing Copy report, and (2) the control number of the original trade report assigned by the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF. Such information will allow FINRA to link the Clearing Copy report to the associated trade report in the proxy price format. Fourth, members are expressly prohibited from aggregating multiple OTC transactions in NextShares in a single Clearing Copy report. In other words, members must submit a separate Clearing Copy report for each transaction originally reported in the proxy price format. Fifth, the proposed Rule clarifies that following submission of the Clearing Copy report, the member is not required to cancel the initial clearing submission for the same transaction in the proxy price format.

Finally, pursuant to paragraph (d)(2)(C) of the proposed Rule, clearing reports for the purpose of transferring a position related to a previously executed trade, such as stepouts,¹⁴ must reflect the final NAV-based trade price, if submitted after publication of the NAV. In this instance, two clearing reports would not be required, and members would submit only a single clearing report (which would not be a Clearing Copy report) at the final trade price.

¹⁴ A step-out allows a member firm to allocate all or part of a client's position from a previously executed trade to the client's account at another broker-dealer. In other words, a step-out functions as a client's position transfer, rather than a trade; there is no exchange of shares and funds and no change in beneficial ownership. <u>See, e.g.</u>, Trade Reporting FAQ 301.1, available at <u>www.finra.org/industry/tradereporting-faq#301</u>.

The proposed Supplementary Material provides additional guidance for members on reporting in the proxy price format, as well as the process for the submission of OTC transactions in NextShares to NSCC intraday before the final trade price is known. Specifically, in accordance with NSCC requirements, the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF will calculate the contract price of the trade based on the last published IIV and submit the transaction in real-time to NSCC for purposes of intraday risk management. The transaction will not clear and settle at the IIV-based price, but instead at the final NAVbased trade price submitted by the reporting member in accordance with paragraph (d)(2)(B) described above.

The proposed Supplementary Material also clarifies that members that clear directly at NSCC (and do not elect to have the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF submit trades on their behalf for clearance and settlement) must provide final pricing information for their executed trades to NSCC after the NAV is published, in accordance with NSCC requirements. FINRA will not do so on behalf of the member.

FINRA notes that the staff discussed the proposed trade reporting requirements with two of its industry advisory committees, which generally indicated that the proposed approach to OTC trade reporting was reasonable. Committee members also acknowledged that firms would be required to make some systems changes for both trading and trade reporting purposes due to the unique nature of the NAV-Based Trading protocol. While some committee members indicated that they may not accept customer orders in NextShares due to the complexity of the product, other members felt that if there was customer demand, they would have to support trading in NextShares. However, FINRA notes that firms would not necessarily have to execute trades OTC, but could route to an exchange or another FINRA member for execution, and in that instance, would not be responsible for reporting the trade to FINRA.

As noted in Item 2 of this filing, FINRA has filed the proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness and proposes that the operative date will be the date announced by Nasdaq for commencement of listing and trading of NextShares on the Nasdaq exchange under Nasdaq rules, which is currently anticipated to be on or about February 1, 2016. FINRA believes that the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF and members alike will have sufficient time to make and test the necessary systems changes to ensure systems readiness by the operative date.¹⁵

2. Statutory Basis

FINRA believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 15A(b)(6) of the Act,¹⁶ 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 is consistent with the Act because it requires that OTC transactions in NextShares, which are NMS stocks approved by the Commission, be reported to FINRA, in furtherance of FINRA's obligations as the SRO with responsibility for the OTC market. The proposed rule change will ensure that

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-3(b)(6).

¹⁵ FINRA notes that currently there are no participants on the ADF, and FINRA does not anticipate there being an active ADF participant by the current NextShares implementation date of February 1, 2016, given the steps and timeframes required for the on-boarding of a new ADF participant. <u>See, e.g.</u>, Securities Exchange Act Release No. 71407 (January 27, 2014), 79 FR 5472 (January 31, 2014) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2013-031 relating to participation on the ADF).

OTC transactions in NextShares are reported to FINRA in a uniform manner, consistent with current trade reporting rules applicable to OTC transactions in other NMS stocks. Among other things, the proposed rule change will ensure that trade data relating to OTC transactions in NextShares is disseminated to the consolidated tape and incorporated in FINRA's audit trail, and will facilitate the clearance and settlement of OTC transactions in NextShares.

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.

The proposed rule change proposes specific trade reporting requirements for OTC transactions in NextShares, which are NMS stocks that have been approved and determined by the Commission to be consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act.¹⁷ FINRA believes that the proposed rule change will have no impact on many members. As an initial matter, on average, only several hundred firms execute and report OTC equity trades to FINRA on a regular basis.¹⁸ Many firms, including smaller firms, route their order flow to another firm, e.g., their clearing firm, for execution, and as the routing firm, they do not have the trade reporting obligation. Thus, the universe of

¹⁷ In approving SR-NASDAQ-2014-020, the Commission stated that it considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition and capital formation. <u>See</u> 79 FR at 68315, fn 72.

¹⁸ FINRA trade reporting rules require that for transactions between members, the "executing party" report the trade to FINRA. For transactions between a member and a non-member or customer, the member must report the trade. "Executing party" is defined under FINRA rules as the member that receives an order for handling or execution or is presented an order against its quote, does not subsequently re-route the order, and executes the transaction.

FINRA members that report OTC trades today is a small fraction of overall FINRA members.¹⁹ Moreover, members will not be required to trade in NextShares and could elect not to accept a customer order for NextShares. Alternatively, firms could route orders for NextShares to the Nasdaq exchange or another FINRA member for execution and reporting.

Nonetheless, members that choose to execute OTC transactions in NextShares will need to make systems changes to comply with the proposed amendments, including coding changes to accommodate the submission of Clearing Copy reports for firms that elect to clear through the FINRA/Nasdaq TRF. In addition, firms will need to adopt policies and procedures relating to the trading and reporting of such transactions. Firms will incur costs to implement and test these changes. While these costs may vary by firm (depending, for example, on the level of sophistication of a firm's technology and trading and reporting platforms), as noted above, firms will not be required to trade in NextShares. Therefore, each firm can determine for itself whether the costs of implementing the changes necessary to support OTC trading in NextShares are warranted. Additionally, as noted above, two of FINRA's industry advisory committees indicated that they believe the proposed trade reporting requirements are reasonable. As such, FINRA does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose significant or differential costs on similarly situated firms.

¹⁹ FINRA notes that in its filings, Nasdaq did not provide an estimate of the number of firms that would be likely to trade NextShares on the exchange or the anticipated trading volume in NextShares. Accordingly, FINRA has no benchmark on which to base any reasonable estimates of the likely number of FINRA members that may elect to execute OTC transactions in NextShares (and would therefore be required to report those transactions pursuant to this proposed rule change) or the likely OTC volume in these products.

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. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission 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 Act²⁰ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.²¹ FINRA believes that the filing is appropriately designated as "non-controversial" because the proposed rule change would adopt trade reporting requirements for OTC transactions in NextShares, which have been approved by the Commission for listing and trading on the Nasdaq exchange. FINRA believes that the proposed rule change proposes reasonable trade reporting requirements for OTC transactions in these securities and that firms would not find compliance with such requirements to be burdensome. Moreover, the proposed requirements would apply only to members that choose to trade NextShares OTC. As such, each firm can determine for itself whether the costs of implementing the changes necessary to support OTC trading in NextShares are warranted.

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

²⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

²¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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.

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-2015-043 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Robert W. Errett, Deputy Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-FINRA-2015-043. 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 (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>). 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-2015-043 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.²²

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

²² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

Below is the text of the proposed rule change. Proposed new language is underlined.

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6000. QUOTATION AND TRANSACTION REPORTING FACILITIES 6100. QUOTING AND TRADING IN NMS STOCKS

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6180. Transaction Reporting

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6184. Transactions in Exchange-Traded Managed Fund Shares ("NextShares")

(a) Members that effect secondary market transactions otherwise than on an exchange in exchange-traded managed fund shares or "NextShares," as defined under Nasdaq Rule 5745, must report such transactions to the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility or the Alternative Display Facility in accordance with this Rule and the rules applicable to the trade reporting facility used by the reporting member. Such transactions cannot be reported to the FINRA/NYSE Trade Reporting Facility.

(b) Reports of transactions in NextShares executed outside of Regular Market Session hours, in violation of Nasdaq Rule 5745, will be rejected by the FINRA trade reporting facility to which the trade report was submitted. "Regular Market Session" for purposes of this Rule shall have the meaning set forth under Nasdaq Rule 4120(b)(4).

(c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (d) of this Rule, members must use the "proxy price" format established by Nasdaq, and not the final trade price, on all reports of transactions in NextShares submitted to FINRA, including all tape and nontape reports, intraday clearing reports, as/of reports and reports of reversals. (d) Submission of Transactions in NextShares for Clearing

(1) Transactions in NextShares can only be designated for submission by FINRA to the National Securities Clearing Corporation ("NSCC") for clearance and settlement through the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility. The Alternative Display Facility does not accept such transactions for clearing purposes. Members that do not clear through the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility must have an alternative means of clearing (e.g., via direct Qualified Special Representative ("QSR") submission to NSCC) such transactions.

(2) Where a member submits a transaction in NextShares for submission by the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility to NSCC, the following requirements apply:

(A) For each transaction, members must submit two clearing reports to the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility. First, the member must submit a clearing report intraday in the proxy price format in accordance with paragraph (c) of this Rule. Second, following publication of the NextShares Fund's net asset value per share ("NAV"), the member must submit a separate "Clearing Copy" report in accordance with paragraph (d)(2)(B) to reflect the final NAV-based trade price.

(B) Reporting the Final NAV-Based Trade Price

(i) Members must submit a separate clearing-only report for the transaction (a "Clearing Copy" report) with the final NAVbased trade price before the close of the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility on the same day as submission of the transaction in the proxy price format.

(ii) Clearing Copy reports should only be submitted to the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility if the transaction was originally reported in the proxy price format to the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility.

(iii) Multiple transactions reported in the proxy price format cannot be aggregated and submitted in a single Clearing Copy report.

(iv) Clearing Copy reports must contain (1) the unique indicator specified by FINRA to denote a Clearing Copy report; and (2) the control number of the original transaction report assigned by the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility.

(v) Following submission of the Clearing Copy report, the member is not required to cancel the initial clearing submission for the transaction in the proxy price format.

(C) Clearing reports for the purpose of transferring a position related to a previously executed trade, such as step-outs, must reflect the final NAV-based trade price, if submitted after publication of the NAV. Such reports shall not be "Clearing Copy" reports, as described in paragraph (d)(2)(B).

••• Supplementary Material: -----

.01 Proxy Price Format

As provided under Nasdaq Rule 5745, NextShares will trade at market-based premiums or discounts to the fund's next-determined NAV. Because the NAV is not determined until after the market closes, the final NAV-based trade price will not be known at the time of trade execution. Accordingly, pursuant to paragraph (c) of this Rule, when reporting transactions in NextShares to FINRA, members are required to use the "proxy price" format established by Nasdaq to reflect the trade price. In proxy price format, a NextShares Fund's next-determined NAV is represented as 100.00 and a premium or discount of a stated amount to the next-determined NAV is represented by the same increment or decrement from 100.00. For example, NAV-\$0.01 will be reported as 99.99 and NAV+\$0.01 will be reported as 100.01. The securities information processor will publicly disseminate trades in the proxy price format. Thus, all transactions reported to FINRA for publication purposes must reflect the trade price in the proxy price format, in accordance with paragraph (c) of this Rule, even if the final NAV-based trade price is known at the time of submission (e.g., trades reported on an as/of basis).

Transactions that are designated for submission by the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility to NSCC must be reported for clearing purposes both intraday in the proxy price format (even if the final NAV-based trade price is known at the time of submission, e.g., trades reported on an as/of basis) and at the final NAV-based trade price. However, transactions will not be submitted by the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility to NSCC in the proxy price format. Rather, the FINRA/Nasdaq Trade Reporting Facility will calculate the contract price of the trade based on the fund's last published Intraday Indicative Value ("IIV"), as defined under Nasdaq Rule 5745, and submit the transaction in real-time to NSCC for purposes of intraday risk management. Transactions will not clear and settle at the price reported in the proxy price format or the IIV-based price, but instead at the final NAV-based trade price submitted by the reporting member in accordance with paragraph (d)(2)(B) of this Rule.

.02 End of Day Processing

<u>Members that clear transactions in NextShares directly at NSCC, e.g., via direct</u> <u>QSR submission, must ensure that they submit to NSCC all pricing information,</u> <u>including the IIV-based price on intraday submissions and the final NAV-based trade</u> <u>price after market close, in accordance with NSCC requirements; such information will</u> <u>not be provided to NSCC by FINRA.</u>

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