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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
(Release No. 34-68112; File No. SR-OCC-2012-14)

October 26, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Options Clearing Corporation; Notice of Designation of a Longer Period for Commission Action on Proposed Rule Change Relating to the Clearance and Settlement of Over-the-Counter Options

On August 30, 2012, the Options Clearing Corporation (“OCC”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change and Advance Notice SR-OCC-2012-14 pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>2</sup> The proposed rule change was published for comment in the Federal Register on September 18, 2012<sup>3</sup> and an Advance Notice was published for comment in the Federal Register on September 27, 2012.<sup>4</sup>

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act<sup>5</sup> provides that within 45 days of the public notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45<sup>th</sup> day for this

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<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67835 (September 12, 2012), 77 FR 57602 (September 18, 2012).

<sup>4</sup> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67906 (September 21, 2012), 77 FR 59431 (September 27, 2012).

<sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

filing is November 2, 2012. The Commission is extending this 45 day time period.

The proposed rule change relates to OCC's adoption of rules to permit the clearing of Over-the-Counter ("OTC") options on the S&P 500 Index. In light of the fact that OCC does not currently provide clearing services for OTC products and because no registered clearing agency currently provides clearing services for OTC S&P 500 Index options, the Commission finds it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider this proposed rule change.

Accordingly, the Commission, pursuant to Section 19b(b)(2) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> designates December 17, 2012, as the date by which the Commission should either approve or disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove, the proposed rule change (File No. SR-OCC-2012-14).

For the Commission by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>7</sup>

Kevin M. O'Neill  
Deputy Secretary

[FR Doc. 2012-26909 Filed 11/02/2012 at 8:45  
am; Publication Date: 11/05/2012]

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<sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).