

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): **January 15, 2020**

**PACIFIC ETHANOL, INC.**

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

**Delaware**

(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

**000-21467**

(Commission File Number)

**41-2170618**

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

**400 Capitol Mall, Suite 2060  
Sacramento, California**

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

**95814**

(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code: **(916) 403-2123**

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communication pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communication pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value	PEIX	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC (Nasdaq Capital Market)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR §240.12b-2). Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

**Item 3.01. Notice of Delisting or Failure to Satisfy a Continued Listing Rule or Standard; Transfer of Listing.**

As previously disclosed by Pacific Ethanol, Inc. (the “Company”) in its Current Report on Form 8-K filed on July 19, 2019, the Company received a letter (the “Initial Letter”) from the Listing Qualifications department of The Nasdaq Stock Market (“Nasdaq”) on July 17, 2019 indicating that the Company was not in compliance with the required minimum bid price of \$1.00 per share (the “Minimum Bid Price Requirement”) as required under Nasdaq Listing Rule 5550(a)(2). The Initial Letter provided the Company with 180 calendar days, or until January 13, 2020, to regain compliance with Nasdaq Listing Rule 5550(a)(2).

On January 15, 2020, the Company received a second letter from Nasdaq granting the Company an additional 180 calendar days, or until July 13, 2020, to regain compliance with the Minimum Bid Price Requirement for continued listing on The Nasdaq Capital Market pursuant to Nasdaq Listing Rule 5550(a)(2).

Nasdaq further stated in the letter that its determination to grant an extension was based on the Company meeting the continued listing requirement for market value of publicly held shares and all other applicable requirements for initial listing on The Nasdaq Capital Market, with the exception of the Minimum Bid Price Requirement, and the Company’s written notice of its intention to cure the deficiency during the second compliance period by effecting a reverse stock split, if necessary.

The Notice has no immediate effect on the listing or trading of the Company’s common stock and the common stock will continue to trade on The Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol “PEIX.”

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: January 21, 2020

PACIFIC ETHANOL, INC.

By: /S/ CHRISTOPHER W. WRIGHT  
Christopher W. Wright,  
Vice President, General Counsel & Secretary