

March 4, 2004

2004 MAR -5 AM 8:20

RECEIVED
C.F.T.C.

VIA FACSIMILE

Office of the Secretariat
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

**Re: Certification: New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc.
Submission #04.23 (Listing of Additional Strike Prices for the
Gold, Silver, Copper, Heating Oil, Natural Gas, Unleaded Gasoline
and Related Calendar Spread Option Contracts)**

Dear CFTC Commissioners:

Pursuant to COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03, COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20, the President of the New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange") has directed that additional strike prices be added for certain contract months in the Gold, Silver, Copper, Heating Oil, Natural Gas, Unleaded Gasoline and related Calendar Spread option contracts as detailed below:

- (A) On March 1, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:
- (1) at the strike price of 132 for the April 2004 contract month of the Copper option contract;
 - (2) at the strike price of 7300 for the June 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;
 - (3) at the strike price of 10800 for the July 2004 contract month of the Heating Oil option contract;
 - (4) at the strike price of 300 for the December 2005 contract month of the Gold option contract;
- (B) On March 2, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:
- (5) at the strike price of 105 for the May 2004 contract month of the Crude Oil One month Calendar Spread option contract;
 - (6) at the strike price of 13400 for the June 2004 contract month of the Unleaded Gasoline option contract;

(7) at the strike price of 13200 for the July 2004 contract month of the Unleaded Gasoline option contract;

(8) at the strike price of 7200 for the July 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(9) at the strike price of 11400 for the July 2004 contract month of the Heating Oil option contract;

(10) at the strike price of 7400 for the September 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(11) at the strike price of 825 for the September 2004 contract month of the Silver option contract;

(12) at the strike price of 7400 for the October 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(13) at the strike price of 5950 for the December 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(14) at the strike price of 5150 for the June 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(15) at the strike price of 5150 for the September 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(C) On March 3, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(16) at the strike prices of 142 and 175 for the July 2004 contract month of the Copper option contract;

(17) at the strike price of 142 for the September 2004 contract month of the Copper option contract;

(18) at the strike price of 6800 for the October 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(19) at the strike price of 775 for the March 2005 contract month of the Silver option contract;

(D) On March 4, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(20) at the strike price of 925 for the July 2004 contract month of the Silver option contract;

(21) at the strike price of 5550 for the September 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(22) at the strike price of 355 for the October 2004 contract month of the Gold option contract;

(23) at the strike price of 7150 for the October 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(24) at the strike price of 5150 for the December 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(25) at the strike price of 6100 for the December 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract; and

(26) at the strike price of 6100 for the March 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract.

Pursuant to the terms of COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03, COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20, the strike prices noted above are in increments that are consistent with the pricing for the underlying futures contract. COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03, COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20 permit such directed strike prices to be effective upon adoption, provided that notice to the CFTC is given within three business days of the strike price listing.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at (212) 299-2207.

Very truly yours,

Brian Regan
Vice President & Counsel

cc: Christopher K. Bowen
George Henderson
Michael Campanelli