



## U.S. COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

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Division of Clearing and  
Intermediary Oversight

Thomas J. Smith  
Chief Accountant

CFTC Letter No. 09-12  
Exemption  
April 16, 2009  
Division of Clearing and Intermediary Oversight

Re: Use of International Financial Reporting Standards in the preparation of the financial statements of "A."

Dear :

This is in response to your March 27, 2009 letter to the Division of Clearing and Intermediary Oversight (the "Division") of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the "Commission"), as well as your April 13, 2009 email to Commission staff, on behalf of "X," the commodity pool operator (the "CPO") of "A" (the "Pool"), requesting that the CPO be granted relief to use International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS") in lieu of US generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP") in the preparation of the financial reports for the Pool.

Based upon your correspondence, the Division understands the pertinent facts to be as follows:

- The Pool is an offshore pool organized under the laws of the Ireland;
- The CPO has filed for relief from certain provisions of the Commission's regulations under Commission Regulation 4.7 for Pool;<sup>1</sup> and
- The prospectus for the Pool states that annual financial statements will be prepared using IFRS.

Commission Regulation 4.7(b)(3) states that a CPO of a commodity pool operated pursuant to a Regulation 4.7 exemption must provide participants with annual financial reports prepared and presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. This provision consistently has been interpreted by the Division staff to mean US GAAP.

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<sup>1</sup> Commission regulations referred to herein are found at 17 C.F.R. Ch. I (2008).

You have represented in your correspondence that the Pool's financial reports would be prepared in accordance with IFRS in lieu of US GAAP, and would comply with the following conditions:

- The CPO will use valuation methods specified in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Audit and Accounting Guide, *Audits of Investment Companies*, to determine fair values of investments;
- The Pool's financial statements will report both realized and unrealized gains and losses through the Statement of Operations;
- The Pool will prepare a condensed schedule of investments;<sup>2</sup> and
- The Pool will report any special allocations of partnership equity in accordance with CFTC Interpretative Letter No. 94-3.

Accordingly, the Division believes that granting the relief requested on behalf of the CPO is neither contrary to the purpose of Regulation 4.7(b)(3), nor to the public interest. Therefore, pursuant to the authority delegated in Regulations 140.93(a)(1) and 4.12(a), and subject to the CPO's continued compliance with the conditions stated herein, the CPO may distribute annual financial statements to the Pool's participants that are prepared in accordance with IFRS in lieu of US GAAP.

This letter, and the position taken herein, are based upon the representations provided to the Division, and are subject to continued compliance with the conditions stated herein. Any different, changed or omitted facts or circumstances might render the position taken herein void. The CPO must notify the Division in writing immediately in the event that the operations or activities of the Pool change in any way from those represented. The relief set forth in this letter does not relieve the CPO from any other applicable requirements of the Commission's regulations.

If you have any questions concerning this correspondence, please contact Mr. Ronald Carletta, Branch Chief, at (646) 746-9726.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Smith

cc: Regina Thoele, National Futures Association, Chicago  
Ronald Carletta, CFTC, New York

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<sup>2</sup> As required by AICPA SOP 95-2, subsequently amended by SOP 01-1 and SOP 03-4.