OneChicago ×

Via Portal Submission

January 25, 2016

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

Re: <u>OneChicago, LLC Rule Submission</u> <u>Issuing NTM 2016-3 (Discontinuing Competitive Block Trades)</u> (OCX Submission Number 16-002)

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended (the "Act"), and § 40.6(a) of the regulations promulgated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or the "Commission") under the Act, OneChicago, LLC ("OneChicago," "OCX," or the "Exchange") hereby submits the following Notice to Members ("NTM") 2016-3, which will become effective on February 9, 2016.

OneChicago is proposing to discontinue its competitive block marketplace. Historically, OneChicago has offered two methods of execution for block size trades. First, market participants may privately negotiate block trades and report these trades as bilateral transactions to the Exchange. These privately negotiated block trades must comply with OCX Rule 417 (Block Trades) and all associated NTMs. Alternatively, market participants could choose to execute block size transactions competitively on OneChicago's central limit order book ("CLOB"), in a marketplace designated for only block size transactions (i.e., separate from OneChicago's primary CLOB, on which any size transaction may be executed). OneChicago market participants have generally chosen to execute block size transactions as privately negotiated trades, rather than on the competitive block marketplace. As a result, this marketplace has remained dormant and inactive. OneChicago is therefore now proposing to discontinue this marketplace. NTM 2016-3, which announces the discontinuance of the competitive block marketplace, is attached as Attachment A.

* * *

The purpose and effect of the NTM is to inform market participants that the competitive block marketplace will no longer be offered on OneChicago's trading platform. Comments on this NTM have not been solicited and none have been received. OneChicago is not aware of any substantive opposing views to this NTM. OneChicago certifies that the NTM complies with the Act, including the core principles, and the Commission's regulations promulgated thereunder. OneChicago further certifies that a copy of this submission has been posted on the <u>OneChicago</u> website.

OneChicago staff has reviewed the core principles applicable to designated contract markets ("DCMs"), and has concluded that the proposed NTM may have some bearing upon the following core principles:

Core Principle 7: Core Principle 7 requires DCMs to make available to market authorities, market participants, and the public accurate information concerning the rules and regulations for executing transactions on the contract market. NTM 2016-3 supports Core Principle 7 in that it informs market participants that the competitive block marketplace will no longer be available on OneChicago's trading platform.

Core Principle 9: Core Principle 9 requires DCMs provide a competitive, open, and efficient market and mechanism for executing transactions. NTM 2016-3 supports Core Principle 9 in that competitive trades of all sizes will continue to be executed on OneChicago's primary CLOB, and privately negotiated block trades will continue to be permitted in accordance with Exchange Rules.

If you have any questions or comments related to this filing, please feel free to contact me by telephone at (312) 883-3441 or through e-mail at <u>wbarazi@onechicago.com</u>.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maycem Barragi

Waseem Barazi / Chief Regulatory Officer and Associate General Counsel

Encl: Attachment A

Attachment A

(See Following Page)

OneChicago ×

Notice to Members 2016-3

Date: January 25, 2016

Re: Discontinuing Competitive Block Trades

Effective Date: February 9, 2016

OneChicago, LLC ("OneChicago" or "OCX") is issuing this Notice to Members ("NTM") 2016-3 to inform market participants that, effective February 9, 2016, OneChicago will no longer offer competitive block trades. In the past, block transactions could be executed competitively on OCXdelta1 or privately negotiated and reported to OCXdelta1 as bilateral transactions. Beginning February 9, 2016, all block trades must be privately negotiated and reported as bilateral transactions.

* * *

Questions regarding this Notice to Members can be directed to <u>operations@onechicago.com</u>.