

**SUBMISSION COVER SHEET**

**IMPORTANT:** Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested

Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): 19-031

Organization: New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX")

Filing as a:  DCM  SEF  DCO  SDR

Please note - only ONE choice allowed.

Filing Date (mm/dd/yy): January 15, 2019 Filing Description: Extension of the NYMEX Natural Gas Futures Volume Incentive Program

**SPECIFY FILING TYPE**

Please note only ONE choice allowed per Submission.

**Organization Rules and Rule Amendments**

- Certification § 40.6(a)
- Approval § 40.5(a)
- Notification § 40.6(d)
- Advance Notice of SIDCO Rule Change § 40.10(a)
- SIDCO Emergency Rule Change § 40.10(h)

Rule Numbers: Not Applicable

**New Product**

Please note only ONE product per Submission.

- Certification § 40.2(a)
- Certification Security Futures § 41.23(a)
- Certification Swap Class § 40.2(d)
- Approval § 40.3(a)
- Approval Security Futures § 41.23(b)
- Novel Derivative Product Notification § 40.12(a)
- Swap Submission § 39.5

Official Product Name:

**Product Terms and Conditions (product related Rules and Rule Amendments)**

- Certification § 40.6(a)
- Certification Made Available to Trade Determination § 40.6(a)
- Certification Security Futures § 41.24(a)
- Delisting (No Open Interest) § 40.6(a)
- Approval § 40.5(a)
- Approval Made Available to Trade Determination § 40.5(a)
- Approval Security Futures § 41.24(c)
- Approval Amendments to enumerated agricultural products § 40.4(a), § 40.5(a)
- "Non-Material Agricultural Rule Change" § 40.4(b)(5)
- Notification § 40.6(d)

Official Name(s) of Product(s) Affected:

Rule Numbers:

January 15, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL**

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

**RE: Extension of the NYMEX Natural Gas Futures Volume Incentive Program  
NYMEX Submission No. 19-031**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of plans to extend the NYMEX Natural Gas Futures Volume Incentive Program ("Program") through January 31, 2020. The extension of the Program will become effective on February 1, 2019. All other Program terms remain unchanged.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program. Modifications appear below, with additions underlined and deletions ~~overstruck~~.

The Exchange reviewed the designated contract market Core Principles as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, NYMEX staff identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted: Monitoring of Trading, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, Compliance with Rules, and Recordkeeping.

The Program does not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA. The Exchange's market regulation staff will monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, NYMEX has implemented systems to track Program participants' volume to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. The products included in this Program are listed for trading in the open and competitive market. Participants in the Program are selected by Exchange staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the NYMEX rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. All participants must expressly agree to comply with and be subject to, applicable regulations and NYMEX rules. The Program is subject to the Exchange's record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

The Exchange certifies that the Program complies with the CEA and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program.

The Exchange certifies that this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail [CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com](mailto:CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com) or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at [Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com](mailto:Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com). Please reference our NYMEX Submission No. 19-031 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen  
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

# EXHIBIT 1

## NYMEX Natural Gas Futures Volume Incentive Program

### **Program Purpose**

The purpose of this Program is to encourage large market participants to increase their Globex® volume enhancing market liquidity for the products listed below. A more liquid contract benefits all participants in the market.

### **Product Scope**

Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures (“NG”), Natural Gas (Henry Hub) Last-day Financial Futures (“HH”), UK NPB Natural Gas (USD/MMBtu) (ICIS Heren) Front Month Futures (“NBP”), and Dutch TTF Natural Gas (USD/MMBtu) (ICIS Heren) Front Month Futures (“TTE”) that are traded on Globex® (“Products”).

### **Eligible Participants**

There is no limit to the number of participants in the Program. Participants may be NYMEX members or non-members. The Exchange, in its sole discretion, will use a variety of factors in determining whether a prospective participant is selected to participate in the Program, including the prospective participant’s overall historical volume in the Products and the prospective participant’s ability to maintain threshold volume obligations for the duration of the Program. The Exchange may from time to time add or subtract from the above factors as it deems necessary.

### **Program Term**

Start date is February 1, 2018. End date is ~~January 31, 2019~~ January 31, 2020.

### **Hours**

N/A

### **Obligations**

In order to be eligible to receive the Program incentives, participants must meet predetermined volume thresholds in the Products.

### **Incentives**

Upon meeting all Program obligations, as determined by the Exchange, participants may be eligible to receive predetermined incentives.

### **Monitoring and Termination of Status**

The Exchange shall monitor participants’ activity in the Products and retains the right to revoke participant status if it concludes from review that a participant no longer meets the eligibility criteria or obligations of the Program.