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March 13, 2017

## VIA CFTC PORTAL

Commodity Futures Trading Commission Attention: Chris Kirkpatrick, Secretary Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW Washington, DC 20581

## Re: Broker Incentive Programs: Certification Submission No. 17-005 Pursuant to Regulation 40.6(a)

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Commission Regulation 40.6(a), Nodal Exchange, LLC ("Nodal Exchange" or "Exchange") is notifying the Commission by self-certification of the Exchange's intention to continue the Nodal Exchange Incentive Payments to Brokers ("Program") for the submission of block trades by brokers. The description of the Program incentives is confidential and redacted from the attached Appendix A. The un-redacted version of Appendix A is segregated as a separate document as Appendix B. This filing is effective immediately and the Program is effective for the second quarter of 2017.

Exchange management has assessed the Program and certifies its compliance with the Commodity Exchange Act ("Act"), including the Commissions Regulations and the Core Principles. Specifically, the Program complies with Core Principle 2 (Compliance with Rules), Core Principle 4 (Prevention of Market Disruption), Core Principle 9 (Execution of Transactions), Core Principle 12 (Protection of Market Participants), and Core Principle 18 (Recordkeeping).

The Program is offered to all brokers authorized by the Exchange to submit negotiated block trades executed by Exchange participants in accordance with the rules of the Exchange. All futures contracts on electric power listed by the Exchange are included in this Program. At the end of the quarter, incentives are payable to brokers that submit block trades on the Exchange's power futures contracts.

The Program is structured so that there are no incentives for participants to trade, or to engage in market abuses such as manipulative trading or wash trades. The Program does not impact order execution priority or otherwise give participants any execution preference or advantage. The Program does not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations. The Exchange's surveillance staff and compliance personnel will continue to monitor trading to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. The Program is subject to the Exchange's recordkeeping rules which comply with the Commodity Exchange Act.

Nodal Exchange certifies that, concurrent with this submission, a notice of certification was posted on the Nodal Exchange website at <u>www.nodalexchange.com</u>. There have not been any opposing views expressed regarding the Program.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this submission, please contact me at 703-962-9853 or <u>markotic@nodalexchange.com</u>.

Sincerely,

/s/ Max Markotic

**Compliance Manager** 

Attachments:

- 1. Appendix A: Nodal Exchange Incentive Payments to Brokers Program Redacted
- 2. Appendix B: CONFIDENTIAL Nodal Exchange Incentive Payments to Brokers Program un-redacted
- 3. Request for Confidential Treatment