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April 16, 2021

#### 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: Modifications to the Copper Options Liquidity Provider Program COMEX Submission No. 21-185

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Commodity Exchange, Inc. ("COMEX" or "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") that it plans to modify the Copper Options Liquidity Provider Program ("Program"). The modifications to the Program will become effective on May 1, 2021.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of the Program. Modifications appear below, with additions <u>underlined</u> and deletions <del>overstruck</del>.

The Exchange reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA" or "Act"). During the review, Exchange 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 will monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, the Exchange 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 will be selected by Exchange staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the Exchange rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. All participants must execute a contractual agreement with the Exchange in which each participant will expressly agree to comply with and be subject to, applicable regulations and Exchange rules. The Program is subject to the Exchange's record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

COMEX 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 <u>http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</u>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail <u>CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com</u> or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at <u>Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com</u>. Please reference our COMEX Submission No. 21-185 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

## **EXHIBIT 1**

### **Copper Options Liquidity Provider Program**

### Program Purpose

The purpose of the Program is to increase liquidity in the products listed below. The resulting increase in liquidity for the products listed below benefits all participant segments in the market.

#### Product Scope

Copper Options ("HX") and Copper Weekly Options Weeks 1-5 ("H1E – H5E") that are traded on the CME Globex Platform or cleared through CME ClearPort (collectively, the "Products").

#### **Eligible Participants**

There is no limit to the number of participants that may participate in the Program. Participants may be COMEX members or non-members.

#### Program Term

Start date is July 1, 2017. End date is April 30, 2021 October 31, 2021.

#### **Obligations**

In order to be eligible to receive the Program incentives, participants must meet predetermined volume thresholds and quote two-sided markets in the Products, at predetermined bid/ask spreads and minimum quote sizes.

#### **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 trading activity and participants' performance and shall retain the right to revoke Program participant status if it concludes from review that a Program participant has failed to meet the requirements of the Program.