

SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

IMPORTANT: Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested

Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): 18-223

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): May 23, 2018 Filing Description: Implementation of the NYMEX Natural Gas Deferred Credit 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: N/A

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:



Christopher Bowen
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel
Legal Department

May 23, 2018

VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL

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

**RE: Implementation of the NYMEX Natural Gas Deferred Credit Incentive Program
NYMEX Submission No. 18-223**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") that it plans to implement the NYMEX Natural Gas Deferred Credit Incentive Program ("Program"). The proposed Program will become effective on July 1, 2018.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program.

NYMEX reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("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 will 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, the Exchange has implemented systems to track Program participants' volume to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. The incentives in the Program do not impact the Exchange's order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by NYMEX 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 execute a contractual agreement with NYMEX in which each participant will 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.

NYMEX 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 CMESubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com. Please reference our NYMEX Submission No. 18-223 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

EXHIBIT 1

NYMEX Natural Gas Deferred Credit Incentive Program

Program Purpose

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize participants to provide liquidity in the products listed below. The resulting additional central limit order book liquidity benefits all participants in the market.

Product Scope

Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures (“NG”) and Natural Gas (Henry Hub) Last-Day Financial Futures (“HH”) that are traded on the CME Globex Platform.

Eligible Participants

There is no limit to the number of participants that may participate in the Program. Participants must be classified as a bank or commercial firm as determined by the Exchange. Participants may be members or non-members.

Program Term

Start date is July 1, 2018. End date is January 31, 2019.

Obligations

Participants will receive predetermined incentives based on volume traded in the Products.

Incentives

Upon meeting all Program obligations, as determined by the Exchange, participants will 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 participant status if it concludes from review that a participant has failed to meet the eligibility requirements or obligations of the Program.