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July 10, 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: Modifications to the FX Options Liquidity Enhancement Program CME Submission No. 18-298

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME" or "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of plans to modify the FX Options Liquidity Enhancement Program ("Program"). The modifications to the Program will become effective on August 1, 2018.

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

CME reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, CME 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. Exchange staff will monitor trading in the Program's products in order 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 Program does not impact the Exchange's order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by CME staff using criteria as set forth 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 CME in which each participant will expressly agree to comply with, and be subject to, applicable regulations and Exchange rules. Additionally, the Program is subject to the Exchange's record retention policies, which comply with the CEA.

CME 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 <a href="http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html">http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</a>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail <a href="mailto:CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com">CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com</a> or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com">Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com</a>. Please reference our CME Submission No. 18-298 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Enclosure: Exhibit 1

## **EXHIBIT 1**

# **FX Options Liquidity Enhancement Program**

#### **Program Purpose**

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize participants to build electronic liquidity and volume in foreign exchange ("FX") options products. More liquid contracts on the central limit order book benefit all participants in the marketplace.

## **Product Scope**

All FX options traded on the CME Globex® Platform ("Products").

### **Eligible Participants**

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

## **Program Term**

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

#### **Hours**

N/A

### **Obligations**

In order to be eligible to receive the Program incentives, participants must respond to request-for-quotes or meet certain minimum stream quoting obligations in the Products.

## **Incentives**

Upon satisfying the 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 participant status if it concludes from review that a participant has failed to meet the obligations of the Program.