



**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Submission No. 15-123  
July 15, 2015

Mr. Christopher J. Kirkpatrick  
Secretary of the Commission  
Office of the Secretariat  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission  
Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20581

**RE: Recertification of Cash Settled U.S. Grains Option Contracts  
Submission Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Act and Regulation 40.6(a)**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("Act"), and Commission Regulation 40.6(a), ICE Futures U.S., Inc. ("IFUS" or "Exchange") hereby certifies that the cash-settled Corn, Wheat, Soybeans, Soybean Oil and Soybean Meal Option Contracts (collectively the "Contracts"), which have become dormant under Commission Regulation 40.1(b), continue to comply with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder and will remain listed by the Exchange.

The Contracts are listed on IFUS pursuant to Chapter 14 of the Exchange's Rules, attached hereto as Exhibit A, which governs trading of all cash settled agricultural futures and option contracts. Please note that the terms and conditions of the Contracts are not being changed. Furthermore, the Contracts are cleared by ICE Clear U.S., a derivatives clearing organization which clears all Exchange contracts other than Energy contracts; and the Exchange's Market Regulation staff performs the compliance and market surveillance function for the Contracts.

The Exchange certifies that the Contracts remain in compliance with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder. The Exchange is not aware of any substantive opposing views with respect to the continued listing of the Contracts. The Exchange further certifies that a copy of this submission was posted on the Exchange's website concurrent with its filing with the Commission.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at 212-748-4021 or at [jason.fusco@theice.com](mailto:jason.fusco@theice.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason V. Fusco". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jason V. Fusco  
Assistant General Counsel  
Market Regulation

Enc.

cc: Division of Market Oversight  
New York Regional Office

EXHIBIT A

**CASH-SETTLED US AGRICULTURAL FUTURES AND  
OPTIONS CONTRACTS**

**Subchapter A-Futures Contracts**

**Rule 14.00A Scope**

The Rules in this sub-chapter govern Transactions in ICE Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contracts. The Exchange shall list for trading hereunder Futures Contracts in corn, wheat, soybeans, soybean oil and soybean meal and such other commodities as may be designated by the Exchange from time to time.

**Rule 14.01A Contract Size**

Each Futures Contract shall be valued as the contract quantity multiplied by the Settlement Price. The contract quantities for each Futures Contract shall be as follows:

- Corn: 5,000 bushels
- Wheat: 5,000 bushels
- Soybeans: 5,000 bushels
- Soybean Oil: 60,000 pounds
- Soybean Meal: 100 short tons

**Rule 14.02A Contract Months**

Trading shall be conducted in the months set forth below (the "Listing Cycle") or as otherwise specified by the Board. The number of months open for trading at any time shall be determined by the Exchange.

Commodity Listing Cycle

- Corn: March, May, July, September and December
- Wheat: March, May, July, September and December
- Soybeans: January, March, May, July, August, September and November
- Soybean Oil: January, March, May, July, August, September, October and December
- Soybean Meal: January, March, May, July, August, September, October and December

**Rule 14.03A Price Basis**

All bids and offers shall be quoted and minimum price fluctuations shall be as follows:

Contract	Quotation Basis	Minimum Fluctuation
Corn	U.S. cents per bushel.	1/4th off one cent per bushel (\$12.50 per contract)

Wheat	U.S. cents per bushel.	1/4th of one cent per bushel (\$12.50 per contract)
Soybeans	U.S. cents per bushel.	1/4th of one cent per bushel (\$12.50 per contract)
Soybean Oil	U.S. cents per pound	1/100th of one cent per pound (\$6.00 per contract)
Soybean Meal	U.S. dollars and cents per short ton	Ten cents per short ton (\$10.00 per contract)

#### Rule 14.04A Daily Price Limits

(a) There shall be no price limits on the current month contract on or after the day that is the second Business Day preceding the first day of the delivery month of the corresponding contract month of the corresponding physical delivery contract listed on the Chicago Board of Trade (“CBOT”).

(b) There shall be no trading in a particular Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract at a price that is above or below the previous day’s Settlement Price by more than the amount specified below as the “Basic Price Limit” for such Futures Contract. If two or more contract months within the nearest months that collectively comprise a full Listing Cycle (or the remaining contract month in a crop year) of a Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract (excluding any current month contract to which price limits do not apply under this Rule) close at limit bid or limit offer, the daily price limits for all contract months of such Futures Contract shall increase to the amount specified below as the “Expanded Price Limit” for such Futures Contract. If an Expanded Price Limit is in effect with respect to a Futures Contract and two or more contract months within the nearest months that collectively comprise a full Listing Cycle (or the remaining contract month in a crop year) of a Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract (excluding any current month contract to which price limits do not apply under this Rule) close at limit bid or limit offer, the daily price limits for all contract months of such Futures Contract shall increase to the amount specified below as the “Maximum Price Limit” for such Futures Contract. If the Maximum Limit is in effect and no contract month closes limit bid or limit offer, then the daily price limit for all contract months of such Futures Contract shall revert back to the Expanded Price Limit the next Business Day, and if an Expanded Price Limit is in effect and no contract month closes limit bid or limit offer, then the daily price limit for all contract months of such Futures Contract shall revert back to the Basic Price Limit the next Business Day.

Contract	Basic Price Limit	Expanded Price Limit	Maximum Limit
Corn	40 cents/bushel	60 cents/ bushel	
Wheat	60 cents/bushel	90 cents/bushel	\$1.35/bushel
Soybeans	70 cents/bushel	\$1.05/bushel	\$1.60/bushel
Soybean Oil	2.5 cents/pound	3.5 cents/pound	5.5 cents/pound
Soybean Meal	\$20/short ton	\$30/short ton	\$45/short ton

#### Rule 14.05A Last Trading Day

The Last Trading Day for any contract month of a Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract shall be the Business Day prior to the first day on which delivery notices may be issued under the rules of the CBOT for the corresponding commodity and delivery month. No trades in any Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contracts that must be settled in any current contract month shall be

made after the close of trading on the Last Trading Day for that contract month.

#### **Rule 14.06A Settlement Price**

The Exchange shall publish a Settlement Price on each Business Day which shall be set at the value of the corresponding month of the corresponding CBOT physical delivery futures contract on such day, or as otherwise specified by the Exchange. If there is no trading in such corresponding CBOT contract, or if the Exchange determines that the CBOT price does not fairly represent the market value of the relevant contract month or is inconsistent with market information known to the Exchange, the Exchange will calculate the Settlement Price in the manner specified in Rule 4.08 with respect to other Exchange Futures Contracts. All settlements must be made through the Clearing Organization.

#### **Rule 14.07A Final Settlement Price**

The Exchange shall publish a final Settlement Price which shall be set at the value of the corresponding contract month of the CBOT physical delivery futures contract on the day which is the Last Trading Day of the relevant ICE Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract, or as otherwise specified by the Board of Directors of the Exchange. Final settlement under each Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract for any contract month shall be made on the Last Trading Day and shall be made in the same manner and in accordance with the same procedures that payment of variation Margin is made.

#### **Rule 14.08A EFP Transactions/EFS Transactions**

EFP Transactions and EFS Transactions involving Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contracts shall be subject to the requirements of Rule 4.06.

#### **Rule 14.09A Position Limits**

Transactions in Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contracts shall be subject to the limitations on position and other requirements set forth in Chapter 6 of the Rules.

### **Subchapter B-Options Contracts**

#### **Rule 14.00B Scope**

The Rules in this sub-chapter govern Transactions in ICE Cash-Settled US Agricultural Options Contracts. The Exchange shall list for trading hereunder Options on each ICE Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract that is listed for trading from time to time.

#### **Rule 14.01B Obligations of Option Purchasers**

(a) The Purchaser of an Option shall cause such Option to be submitted by a Clearing Member to the Clearing Organization for clearance in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules.

(b) The Purchaser which clears an Option shall pay in full the Premium to the Clearing Organization in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules, and shall collect from the Person for whom it clears such Option the full amount of the Premium in accordance with the Rules and the Clearing Organization Rules.

(c) The Purchaser of an Option shall, upon exercising such Option in accordance with the Rules, enter into a long position (in the case of a Call Option) or a short position (in the case of a Put Option)

in the Underlying Futures Contract deliverable in the Option Month, at the Strike Price specified in such Option; provided, however, that any such contract entered into upon exercise shall be entered into for the account of the Person having purchased the Option.

**Rule 14.02B Obligations of Option Grantors**

(a) The Grantor which grants an Option shall cause such Option to be submitted by a Clearing Member to the Clearing Organization for clearance in accordance with Clearing Organization Rules.

(b) The Grantor which clears an Option shall make such Margin deposits as the Clearing Organization may require.

(c) The Grantor of an Option shall, upon being assigned an Exercise Notice, enter into a short position (in the case of a Call Option) or a long position (in the case of a Put Option) in the Underlying Futures Contract deliverable in the Option Month, at the Strike Price specified in such Option; provided, however, that any such contract entered into upon assignment of an Exercise Notice shall be entered into for the account of the Person having granted the Option.

**Rule 14.03B Effect of Clearance**

Upon acceptance of an Option by the Clearing Organization, the Clearing Organization shall be substituted as, and assume the position of, the Purchaser to the Clearing Member who is the Grantor and the position of the Grantor to the Clearing Member who is the Purchaser; and thereupon the Clearing Organization shall have all the rights and obligations with respect to such Option as the parties for which it is substituted.

**Rule 14.04B Months Traded**

Except as otherwise determined by the Exchange, trading may be conducted in the nearby Option month of any Cash-Settled US Agricultural Option and in any succeeding months. For Options in months during which a Cash-Settled US Agricultural Futures Contract is not listed for trading (“Serial Options”), the Underlying Futures Contract shall be the next contract month which is listed for trading; as an example, for the February Corn Option the Underlying Futures Contract is March.

**Rule 14.05B Contract Size**

One Futures Contract, in the specified contract month, having the quantity set forth for such Futures Contract in Rule 14.01A.

**Rule 14.06B Premium Quotation**

A position may be initiated or liquidated at a premium of \$1.00 per Option contract. The premium for quotation of a Cash-Settled US Agricultural Option and minimum price fluctuation shall be as specified below:

Contract	Quotation Basis	Minimum Fluctuation
Corn	U.S. cents per bushel	1/8 <sup>th</sup> of one cent per bushel (\$6.25 per contract)
Wheat	U.S. cents per bushel	1/8 <sup>th</sup> of one cent per bushel (\$6.25 per contract)
Soybeans	U.S. cents per bushel.	1/8 <sup>th</sup> of one cent per bushel (\$6.25 per contract)

Soybean Oil	U.S. cents per pound	5/1000 of one cent per pound (\$3.00 per contract)
Soybean Meal	U.S. dollars and cents per short ton	5 cents per short ton (\$5.00 per contract)

**Rule 14.07B Strike Price**

(a) Trading shall only be conducted in Regular or Serial Options having Strike Prices determined in accordance with this Rule.

(b) The Strike Prices of Options shall be at levels set at intervals as follows:

Corn:	5 cents per bushel
Wheat:	5 cents per bushel
Soybeans	10 cents per bushel
Soybean Oil	½ cent per pound
Soybean Meal	\$10.00 per short ton

(c) Except as the Exchange may determine otherwise, Options shall be listed for trading with particular Strike Prices for each Option month as follows: Regular Options shall be listed on the Business Day following the day on which the Underlying Futures Contract is listed for trading; and a new Serial Option shall be listed on the Business Day following the Last Trading Day of another Serial Option.

(d) On the day that Options for any Option Month are first listed for trading, the Exchange will establish Strike Prices as follows:

- (i) One (1) Strike Price that is consistent with the prescribed interval for the Option and is closest to the Settlement Price of the Underlying Futures Contract on the previous day; provided that if two (2) prices are equally close to the Settlement Price, the smaller Strike Price shall be used;
- (ii) At least ten (10) Strike Prices that are at the prescribed interval above and ten (10) Strike Prices that are at the prescribed interval below the Strike Price established pursuant to subparagraph (i), above.

(e) If on any day the Underlying Futures Contract settles at a price such that there are not at least the required number of Options listed for trading as provided herein, then at the opening of trading on the next Business Day, one(1) or more additional Options shall be listed for trading at Strike Prices that are at the prescribed intervals above or below the highest or lowest Strike Price, respectively, as may be required to assure that the Options required pursuant to subparagraph (d) are listed for trading.

(f) In addition to the Strike Prices authorized above, the President may direct that additional Strike Prices be added. Such directed Strike Prices (“DSPs”) may be added provided that they may only be listed at the respective prescribed interval. All DSPs shall be effective upon adoption.

**Rule 14.08B Last Trading Day**

The Last Trading Day in any Regular Option and any Serial Option shall be the day on which trading terminates in the corresponding CBOT option contract.

#### **Rule 14.09B Settlement Premiums**

The Exchange shall publish a Settlement Premium on each Business Day which shall be set at the value of the corresponding Option and month of the corresponding CBOT option contract on such day, or as otherwise determined by the Exchange. If there is no trading in such CBOT Option, the Exchange will calculate a Settlement Premium which is derived from available market information, which may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following sources: trades, bids and offers, relevant spread trades, the settlement price of the Underlying Futures Contract, and relevant relationships based on option pricing theory using option pricing models employed by the Exchange.

#### **Rule 14.10B Exercise**

(a) All exercises of Options shall be made through the Clearing Organization, in accordance with the Rules and the Clearing Organization Rules.

(b)(i) Any Clearing Member who has, or carries accounts for others that have, an open long position in an Option on any day that the Option is traded may issue an Exercise Notice with respect to each open position not later than 5:00 P.M. New York Time on any Business Day except the Last Trading Day.

(ii) On the Last Trading Day, any Clearing Member which has, or carries accounts for others which have, an open long position in the expiring Option may issue an Exercise Notice with respect to each open position not later than 6:00 P.M. New York Time.

(iii) (a) with respect to Option Months coinciding with delivery months for the Underlying Futures Contract (a) in each instance in which on the Last Trading Day there is an open long position in an Option for which (i) the Strike Price is less in the case of a Call Option, or greater in the case of a Put Option, than the final Settlement Price of the Underlying Futures Contract, the Options comprising such open long positions shall be automatically exercised unless written instructions to do otherwise shall be received not later than 6:00 P.M. NY time on the Last Trading Day.

(c) With respect to Options not coinciding with delivery months for the Underlying Futures Contract, in each instance in which on the Last Trading Day there is an open long position in an Option for which the Strike Price is less in the case of a Call Option, or greater, in the case of Put Option, than the Settlement Price of the Underlying Futures Contract on the Option's Last Trading Day, the Options comprising such open long position shall be automatically exercised unless written instructions to do otherwise shall be received by the Clearing Organization not later than 6:00 P.M. New York Time.

(d) By 9:15 A.M. of the Business Day following receipt of Exercise Notices, the Clearing Organization shall allocate such Exercise Notices among Clearing Members which have, or which carry accounts for others which have, open short positions in Options at the close of trading on the preceding Business Day. The Clearing Organization shall give any such Clearing Member notice of exercise of each Option, in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules.

(e) Upon exercise of any Option, the Clearing Organization will make book entries to change the Underlying Futures Contract and Option positions carried by the Clearing Member exercising an Option pursuant to paragraph (b)(i) of this Rule and the Clearing Member assigned any Exercise Notice pursuant to paragraph (c) of this Rule. Any Exercise Notice received after 5:00 P.M. on any Business Day except the Last Trading Day shall be considered as being received the next Business Day. Any Option contract for which an Exercise Notice is not received by the Clearing Organization by 6:00 P.M. on the Last Trading Day, or is not exercised automatically pursuant to paragraph (b)(iii) of this Rule, shall expire at the time.



(f) Any Clearing Member that exercises an Option pursuant to paragraph (b) of this Rule and any Clearing Member that is assigned an Exercise Notice pursuant to paragraph (c) of this Rule on any day, must deposit any initial Margin and variation Margin required for the Underlying Futures Contract before such time as may be prescribed by the Clearing Organization Rules.

(g) Options shall not be transferred, assigned or otherwise disposed of other than on the Exchange, subject to the Rules and the Clearing Organization Rules.

**Rule 14.11B EOO Transactions**

EOO Transactions involving Options on Cash-Settled US Corn Futures Contracts shall be subject to the requirements of Rule 4.06.

**Rule 14.12B Position Limits**

Transactions in Options on Cash-Settled US Corn Futures Contracts shall be subject to the limitations on positions and other requirements set forth in Chapter 6 of the Rules.