

#### **Rule Self-Certification**

August 18, 2015

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

Re: Regulation §40.6 Submission Certification

**Energy Broker Incentive Program Reference File: SR-NFX-2015-62** 

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("Act"), and Section 40.6 of the Commission's regulations thereunder, NASDAQ Futures, Inc. ("NFX" or "Exchange") is notifying the Commission of an amendment to the Exchange's broker incentive program (the "Energy Broker Incentive Program" or "Program") for certain energy contracts (the "Energy Contracts"). The Exchange desires to add five new Energy Contracts to the current Energy Broker Incentive Program: NFX Brent Crude Financial Futures ("BFQ"); NFX WTI Crude Oil Financial Futures ("CLQ"); NFX Low Sulphur Gasoil Financial Futures ("GOQ"); NFX Heating Oil Financial Futures ("HOQ"); and NFX RBOB Gasoline Financial Futures ("RBQ").

The Program is designed to incentivize Off-Exchange Reporting Brokers ("ORBs") to increase their volume in certain Energy Contracts they submit to NFX as Block Trades, thereby enhancing market liquidity for these products.<sup>2</sup> The terms and conditions of the Energy Broker

<sup>1</sup> The Exchange initially filed the broker incentive plan as SR-NFX-2015-45 on June 19, 2015 and the Program launched on July 24, 2015.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Off-Exchange Reporting Broker" is defined in Chapter I, Section 1 of the NFX Rulebook as an Authorized Customer who has received authorization from the Exchange as provided in Chapter V, Section 4(m) which in turn provides that an Off-Exchange Reporting Broker may access the Trading System directly for the purpose of submitting transactions for reporting and

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Incentive Program are attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>. The amendments in Exhibit A for the five new Energy Contracts will be implemented on September 2, 2015 and will have the same Program Term as the other Energy Contracts currently in the Energy Broker Incentive Program which expires on July 24, 2016, one year from the launch date.

The Exchange believes that the Energy Broker Incentive Program complies with Core Principle 4 (Monitoring of Trading), Core Principle 9 (Execution of Transactions) and Core Principle 12 (Protection of Market Participants). The Energy Broker Incentive Program will not impact order execution priority or otherwise give participants any execution preference or advantage. The Energy Broker Incentive Program will not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the Act and Exchange staff will monitor trading in the Energy Broker Incentive Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, the Exchange has systems to track Energy Broker Incentive Program participants' volume to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. Finally, NFX rules include prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices.

There were no opposing views among the NFX's Board of Directors, members or market participants. The Exchange hereby certifies that the amendment to add five new Energy Contracts to the Energy Broker Incentive Program complies with the Commodity Exchange Act and regulations thereunder. The Exchange also certifies that notice of pending certification and a copy of this submission have been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <a href="http://business.nasdaq.com/nasdaq-futures/nfx-market">http://business.nasdaq.com/nasdaq-futures/nfx-market</a>.

If you require any additional information regarding the submission, please contact Angela S. Dunn at +1 215 496 5692 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:angela.dunn@nasdaq.com">angela.dunn@nasdaq.com</a> or Steve Matthews at +1 301 978 8458 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:steve.matthews@nasdaq.com">steve.matthews@nasdaq.com</a>. Please reference SR-NFX-2015-62 in any related correspondence.

Regards, Daniel R Cam ge

Daniel R. Carrigan

President

Attachment: Exhibit A

cc: National Futures Association

The Options Clearing Corporation

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### Exhibit A

New text is underlined; deleted text is stricken

# **Energy Broker Incentive Program**

# **Program Purpose**

The purpose of the Energy Broker Incentive Program (the "Program") is to incentivize Off-Exchange Reporting Brokers ("ORBs") to increase their volume they submit to NFX as <u>bBlock</u> <u>tTrades via NasdaQ-Port in the energy products listed below-which will be listed on a date to be announced in an upcoming Futures Regulatory Alert.<sup>3</sup> The resulting additional liquidity should benefit all participants in the market.</u>

# **Product Scope**

The following energy products ("Products") that are submitted for clearing by ORBs via NasdaQ-Port and then cleared by The Options Clearing Corporation:

Products	Trading Symbol	Payment (per cleared contract side except Power)
NFX Options on NFX Henry Hub Penultimate Financial Futures - 10,000	LNQ	\$0.20
NFX Options on NFX Henry Hub Penultimate Financial Futures -10,000	LNQ	\$0.25 (over 200,000 sides in a month)
NFX Henry Hub Natural Gas Financial Futures - 2,500	NNQ	\$0.025
NFX Henry Hub Natural Gas Penultimate Financial Futures – 2,500	NPQ	\$0.025
NFX Henry Hub Natural Gas Financial Futures - 10,000	HHQ	\$0.10
NFX Henry Hub Natural Gas Penultimate Financial Futures - 10,000	HUQ	\$0.10
NFX Options on NFX Brent Crude Financial Futures	BCQ	\$0.20

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>-See SR-NFX-2015-10, filed March 11, 2015.

NFX Options on NFX WTI Crude Oil Financial Futures	LOQ	\$0.20
NFX CAISO NP-15 Hub Day-Ahead Off-Peak Financial Futures	ONPQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX CAISO NP-15 Hub Day-Ahead Peak Financial Futures	NPMQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX CAISO SP-15 Hub Day-Ahead Off-Peak Financial Futures	OFPQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX CAISO SP-15 Hub Day-Ahead Peak Financial Futures	SPMQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX ISO-NE Massachusetts Hub Day-Ahead Off-Peak Financial Futures	NOPQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX ISO-NE Massachusetts Hub Day-Ahead Peak Financial Futures	NEPQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX MISO Indiana Hub Real-Time Off-Peak Financial Futures	CPOQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX MISO Indiana Hub Real-Time Peak Financial Futures	CINQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM AEP Dayton Hub Real-Time Off- Peak Financial Futures	AODQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM AEP Dayton Hub Real-Time Peak Financial Futures	MSOQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM Northern Illinois Hub Real-Time Off-Peak Financial Futures	NIOQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM Northern Illinois Hub Real-Time Peak Financial Futures	PNLQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM Western Hub Day-Ahead Off-Peak Financial Futures	PJDQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM Western Hub Day-Ahead Peak Financial Futures	PJCQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM Western Hub Real-Time Off-Peak Financial Futures	OPJQ	\$.00083 per MWh
NFX PJM Western Hub Real-Time Peak Financial Futures	PJMQ	\$.00083 per MWh

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NFX Brent Crude Financial Futures	<u>BFQ</u>	<u>\$0.20</u>
NFX WTI Crude Oil Financial Futures	<u>CLQ</u>	<u>\$0.20</u>
NFX Low Sulphur Gasoil Financial Futures	<u>GOQ</u>	<u>\$0.20</u>
NFX Heating Oil Financial Futures	<u>HOQ</u>	\$0.20
NFX RBOB Gasoline Financial Futures	<u>RBQ</u>	<u>\$0.20</u>

#### **Eligible Participants**

Any ORB registered with the Exchange is an eligible participant. There is no limit to the number of ORBs that may register with the Exchange and participate in the program by submitting <u>bB</u>lock <u>tT</u>rades. ORBs must have login credentials in order to submit <u>bB</u>lock <u>tT</u>rades in the Products.

### **Program Term**

The start date of the Program will be the date on which the Products are initially listed. The Program Term will expire on July 24, 2016 one year.

### **Hours**

N/A.

### **Program Obligations**

All ORBs must be registered with the Exchange and may only submit  $\underline{bB}$ lock  $\underline{tT}$ rades eligible for incentive payments after they have obtained login credentials. Participants must disclose the accounts in which they plan to submit matched trades.

### **Program Incentives**

Upon meeting all Program obligations, as determined by NFX, ORBs who submit <u>bB</u>lock <u>t</u>Trades in the Products which are cleared will be eligible for the incentives set forth in the table above under Product Scope.

### **Monitoring and Termination of Status**

NFX 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 no longer meets eligibility requirements.