

**SUBMISSION COVER SHEET**

**IMPORTANT:** Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested

Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): 16-526

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): December 8, 2016 Filing Description: Modifications to the NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Incentive Program

**SPECIFY FILING TYPE**

Please note only ONE choice allowed per Submission.

**Organization Rules and Rule Amendments**

- |                                     |                                     |            |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Certification                       | § 40.6(a)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Approval                            | § 40.5(a)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Notification                        | § 40.6(d)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Advance Notice of SIDCO Rule Change | § 40.10(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | SIDCO Emergency Rule Change         | § 40.10(h) |

Rule Numbers: **Not Applicable**

**New Product**

Please note only ONE product per Submission.

- |                          |                                       |            |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification                         | § 40.2(a)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Security Futures        | § 41.23(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Swap Class              | § 40.2(d)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval                              | § 40.3(a)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Security Futures             | § 41.23(b) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Novel Derivative Product Notification | § 40.12(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Swap Submission                       | § 39.5     |

Official Product Name:

**Product Terms and Conditions (product related Rules and Rule Amendments)**

- |                          |                                                         |                      |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification                                           | § 40.6(a)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Made Available to Trade Determination     | § 40.6(a)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Certification Security Futures                          | § 41.24(a)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Delisting (No Open Interest)                            | § 40.6(a)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval                                                | § 40.5(a)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Made Available to Trade Determination          | § 40.5(a)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Security Futures                               | § 41.24(c)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Approval Amendments to enumerated agricultural products | § 40.4(a), § 40.5(a) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | “Non-Material Agricultural Rule Change”                 | § 40.4(b)(5)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Notification                                            | § 40.6(d)            |

Official Name(s) of Product(s) Affected:

Rule Numbers:

December 8, 2016

**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 NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Incentive Program  
NYMEX Submission No. 16-526**

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 modify the NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Incentive Program (“Program”). The proposed modifications to the Program will become effective on January 1, 2017.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program. Modifications appear below, with additions underscored and deletions ~~overstruck~~.

The Exchange reviewed the designated contract market 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; Prevention of Market Disruption, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, Compliance with Rules, and Recordkeeping.

The Program and proposed modifications 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, NYMEX 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. The incentives available under the Program will apply to transactions by participants via any of NYMEX’s execution and/or clearing venues, including the central limit order book. Therefore, the incentives under this Program protect any price discovery taking place in the centralized market. All market participants that register with NYMEX may participate in the Program. Chapter 4 of the NYMEX rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. All participants must submit an application to 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.

The Exchange certifies that the Program and proposed modifications comply with the CEA and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program or proposed modifications.

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 [CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com](mailto:CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com) or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at [Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com](mailto:Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com). Please reference our NYMEX Submission No. 16-526 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen  
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

# EXHIBIT 1

## NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Incentive Program

### **Program Purpose**

The purpose of the Program is to incentivize higher levels of volume contribution in NYMEX energy options products, specifically in crude and refined options products across NYMEX's trading and clearing venues. Higher levels of volume and liquidity in the products listed below benefits all participants in the marketplace.

### **Product Scope**

All NYMEX Crude Oil options, Refined options, and Ethanol options products that are traded on the Globex Platform, ~~the NYMEX trading floor~~, or cleared through the clearing house ("Products").

### **Eligible Participants**

There is no limit to the amount of participants that may register for the Program. Participants may be a NYMEX member or non-member. All market participants that register with NYMEX may participate in the Program.

### **Program Term**

Start date is Feb 2, 2013. End date is ~~December 31, 2016~~ December 31, 2017.

### **Hours**

N/A

### **Incentives**

If a participant meets certain average monthly volume levels in the Products, as determined by the Exchange, the respective participant may qualify to receive predetermined reduced transaction fee rates and in the Products.

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

The Exchange shall monitor participants' activity in the Products and retains the right to revoke Program participant status if it concludes from review that a Program participant no longer meets the eligibility requirements of the Program.