SUBMISSION COVER SHEET		
IMPORTANT: Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): 14-544		
Organization: New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX")		
Filing as a:  SEF DCO	SDR	
Please note - only ONE choice allowed.		
Filing Date (mm/dd/yy): <u>December 11, 2014</u> Filing Description: <u>Modifications to the NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Gateway Incentive Program</u>		
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: Not Applicable		
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:		



December 11, 2014

#### **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 NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Gateway Incentive Program NYMEX Submission No. 14-544

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 its incentive program in support of certain Crude and Refined Options products ("Program"). The proposed modifications will become effective on January 1, 2015.

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

NYMEX 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 pit and our 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.

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 NYMEX Submission No. 14-544 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

# **EXHIBIT 1**

# **NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Gateway 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, <u>Ethanol Options</u>, and Refined options products that are traded on the Globex Platform, the NYMEX trading floor or cleared through the CME 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. Applicants for the Program that have previously been or currently are enrolled in the 2014 NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Incentive Program may not participate. Applicants without previous enrollment in the 2014 NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Incentive Program but, at the time of application to the Program, would otherwise qualify for incentives under the 2014 NYMEX Crude and Refined Options Incentive Program may not participate.

## **Program Term**

Start date is March 12, 2013. End date is December 31, 2014 December 31, 2015.

# **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 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.