



December 14, 2017

Christopher J. Kirkpatrick
Secretary
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

Re: Cboe Futures Exchange, LLC Rule Certification
Submission Number CFE-2017-024

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended (“Act”), and §40.6(a) of the regulations promulgated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC” or “Commission”) under the Act, Cboe Futures Exchange, LLC (“CFE” or “Exchange”) hereby submits an amendment (“Amendment”) to CFE Policy and Procedure XXIV to extend the term of CFE’s Southern Hemisphere New Proprietary Trading Firm Incentive Program (“Program”). The Amendment will become effective on January 1, 2018.

The Amendment extends the Program for an additional year to provide an incentive for proprietary trading firms located in the Southern Hemisphere that have not previously traded in CFE products to trade on the Exchange in Cboe Volatility Index (“VX”) futures and Cboe Russell 2000 Volatility Index (“VU”) futures. The only changes included in the Amendment are the revision of the expiration date of the Program from December 31, 2017 to December 31, 2018 and the revision of two fee waivers under the Program to update the references to those fees for 2018. These changes will also be applicable to the amended version of the Program that is included in CFE Rule Certification Submission Number CFE-2017-017 when the rule changes in that filing are made effective upon the migration of CFE’s trading system to Bats technology. As was the case previously, CFE may determine to extend the term of the Program or replace or modify the Program at any time through a subsequent rule amendment submission to the Commission.

CFE believes that the Amendment is consistent with Designated Contract Market Core Principles 2 (Compliance with Rules), 9 (Execution of Transactions), and 12 (Protection of Markets and Market Participants) under Section 5 of the Act. CFE has established the category of foreign proprietary trading firms eligible for participation in the Program for legitimate business purposes in connection with its efforts to expand its foreign user base and to compete internationally with domestic and foreign exchanges. The Program treats all parties eligible for the Program equally. CFE believes that the Program will contribute to the provision of a competitive, open, and efficient market and the price discovery process on CFE by incentivizing foreign proprietary trading firms in the Southern Hemisphere to trade in VX and VU futures, thus fostering increased liquidity in both those products. Additionally, CFE believes that the Program will contribute to promoting fair and equitable trading on CFE by requiring proprietary trading firms that participate in the Program to use CFE’s self-trade prevention functionality, so as to not

provide an incentive for self-trades in connection with receiving rebates or meeting the contract volume thresholds under the Program.

CFE believes that the impact of the Amendment will be beneficial to the public and market participants. CFE is not aware of any substantive opposing views to the Amendment. CFE hereby certifies that the Amendment complies with the Act and the regulations thereunder. CFE further certifies that CFE has posted a notice of pending certification with the Commission and a copy of this submission on CFE's Web site (<http://cfe.cboe.com/aboutcfe/rules.aspx>) concurrent with the filing of this submission with the Commission.

The Amendment, marked to show additions in underlined text and deletions in [bracketed] text, consists of the following:

**Cboe Futures Exchange, LLC
Policies and Procedures**

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XXIV. Southern Hemisphere New Proprietary Trading Firm Incentive Program

The purpose of the Southern Hemisphere New Proprietary Trading Firm Incentive Program ("Program") is to incentivize new proprietary trading firms located in the Southern Hemisphere to trade designated Exchange products and thus increase liquidity in those products to the benefit of all Exchange market participants.

Products

- The Program is applicable with respect to the following products listed on the Exchange:
 - Cboe Volatility Index ("VX") Futures; and
 - Cboe Russell 2000 Volatility Index ("VU") Futures.

Eligibility

- The Program is limited to five eligible proprietary trading firms.
- In order for a proprietary trading firm to participate in the Program, the firm must:
 - not have previously traded in any product listed on the Exchange;
 - agree to receive information from the Exchange and be contacted by Exchange representatives by phone, electronic mail, and postal mail;
 - submit to the Exchange any application form(s) and documentation required by the Exchange in connection with participation in the Program;
 - be located in a jurisdiction in the Southern Hemisphere approved by the Exchange pursuant to Rule 305B;
 - become effective as a Trading Privilege Holder on or after April 1, 2017 and not have been an effective Trading Privilege Holder prior to that date;

- remain effective as a Trading Privilege Holder during the time period that the firm participates in the Program;
- not be affiliated with the Exchange.
- The Exchange shall select as Program participants the first five proprietary trading firms that satisfy the above eligibility criteria.

Benefits

Transaction Fee Rebates

- The Exchange will issue a rebate in accordance with the table below with respect to transaction fees that satisfy all of the following criteria (“Qualifying Transaction Fees”):
 - transaction fees in VX and VU futures,
 - excluding block trade and regulatory fees,
 - assessed for contract purchases and sales for the trading firm’s designated account(s) during a calendar month,
 - executed during the time period in which the proprietary trading firm is a participant in the Program,

if the volume of VX and VU futures contracts traded for the trading firm’s designated account(s) during that calendar month meets or exceeds the applicable minimum volume thresholds for a rebate to be applicable.

- There are two minimum volume thresholds that must be satisfied during a calendar month in order for a rebate to be applicable for that calendar month:
 - a minimum threshold for total trading volume in VX and VU futures (inclusive of transactions during both regular trading hours and extended trading hours (“ETH”)), and
 - a minimum threshold for trading volume in VX and VU futures during ETH.
- If a rebate tier applies for a calendar month pursuant to the table below, the rebate percentage is applied to all Qualifying Transaction Fees during that calendar month and not just to transaction fees for transactions at or above the applicable volume thresholds. If more than one rebate tier is satisfied for a calendar month, the rebate tier with the highest rebate percentage is applied for that calendar month.

Rebate Tier	Minimum Monthly VX and VU Volume Threshold	Minimum Monthly VX and VU ETH Volume Threshold	Monthly Rebate Percentage
Tier 1	50,000	10,000	15%
Tier 2	80,000	20,000	30%
Tier 3	130,000	40,000	45%

- Contract volume for purposes of the Program shall be measured per contract side.

- If a participating proprietary trading firm does not meet the minimum volume thresholds for a rebate to be applicable for a calendar month, the firm will remain a participant in the Program and remain eligible to generate rebates for subsequent calendar months during the term of the Program if the firm meets minimum volume thresholds during those subsequent calendar months.
- Any contract volume for which a rebate is applicable under another Exchange incentive program may not be used to satisfy the minimum volume thresholds or to generate a rebate under this Program.

Historical Market Data Fee Waiver

- The Exchange will provide three months of VX futures historical market data to each participating proprietary trading firm at no cost.

Trading Permit Fee Waiver

- The Exchange will waive [the Annual] monthly Trading Permit [Fee] Fees during [2017] 2018 for each participating proprietary trading firm.

[Connectivity] Direct Data Access Fee Waiver

- The Exchange will waive the [Market Data Connectivity] Direct Data Access Fee for CFE data for the first six months during which a proprietary trading firm participates in the Program.

Other Provisions

- A proprietary trading firm participant in the Program is required to provide written notification to the Exchange in a form and manner prescribed by the Exchange of the account(s) in which the firm will execute transactions in Exchange products under the Program. The application of rebates with respect to transactions by an account of a proprietary trading firm participant in the Program begins on the date of receipt by the Exchange of written notification of that account as specified above.
- Any account identified by a proprietary trading firm for the application of rebates under the Program may not be used by any party other than that proprietary trading firm to execute transactions in Exchange products under the Program. Transactions made by any party other than the proprietary trading firm do not qualify for rebates or the satisfaction of the trading volume threshold under the Program in relation to that proprietary trading firm.
- A proprietary trading firm participant in the Program shall provide any supplemental documentation requested by the Exchange to substantiate that transactions qualify for satisfaction of the trading volume threshold and rebates under the Program. Failure to promptly provide notice of any changes to information provided to the Exchange for purposes of the Program, including account number changes and additions, and supplemental documentation requested by the Exchange may result in ineligibility for the applicable rebates.

- Rebates under the Program are made to the Clearing Member that was originally assessed the transaction fees for the qualifying transactions through the payment of the rebates to that Clearing Member.
- Rebates will be made following the end of the applicable calendar month.
- Each proprietary trading firm participant in the Program is required to utilize Exchange self-trade prevention functionality under Rule 406A.
- During the time period in which a proprietary trading firm is a participant in the Program, the firm and its Authorized Traders are not eligible for the application of Day Trade fees for Exchange products under the Program, are not eligible to participate in the New European Futures Commission Merchant Incentive Program and are not eligible to participate in the Foreign Proprietary Trading Firm Incentive Program.

Term

The term of the Program shall be from April 1, 2017 through December 31, [2017] 2018. The Exchange may determine to allow the Program to expire, extend the term of the Program, or replace or modify the Program at any time.

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Questions regarding this submission may be directed to Arthur Reinstein at (312) 786-7570 or Nicole Gordon at (312) 786-8109. Please reference our submission number CFE-2017-024 in any related correspondence.

Cboe Futures Exchange, LLC

[/s/ Andrew Lowenthal](#)

By: Andrew Lowenthal
Senior Managing Director