SUBMISSION COVER SHEET

IMPORTANT: Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested ☐

Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): <u>19-477</u>

Organization: <u>Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME")</u>

Filing as a: ☒ **DCM**   ☐ **SEF**   ☐ **DCO**   ☐ **SDR**

Please note - only ONE choice allowed.

Filing Date (mm/dd/yy): <u>December 20, 2019</u> Filing Description: <u>Implementation of the Bitcoin Options 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: <u>Not Applicable</u>

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 20, 2019

<u>**VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL**</u>

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

RE: **Implementation of the Bitcoin Options Incentive Program**
              CME Submission No. 19-477

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME" or "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of plans to implement the Bitcoin Options Incentive Program ("Program"). The proposed Program will become effective on January 13, 2020.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program.

CME reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, CME staff identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted: Monitoring of Trading, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, Compliance with Rules, and Recordkeeping.

The Program will not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA. Exchange staff will monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, CME has implemented systems to track Program participants' volume to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. The Program does not impact the Exchange's order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by CME staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the CME rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair, or abusive practices. The Program is subject to these rules and CME records retention policies that comply with the CEA.

CME certifies that the Program complies 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 http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com. Please reference our CME Submission No. 19-477 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

EXHIBIT 1

Bitcoin Options Incentive Program

Program Purpose

The purpose of this Program is to encourage participants to support the launch and development of the product listed below. A more liquid contract benefits all participants in the marketplace.

Product Scope

Bitcoin Options (the "Product").

Eligible Participants

There is no limit to the number of participants in the Program. Participants may be members or non-members.

Program Term

Start date is January 13, 2020. End date is June 30, 2020.

Hours

N/A

Obligations

In order to be eligible to receive the incentives, participants must meet predetermined volume thresholds in the Product.

Incentives

Upon meeting the obligations, as determined by the Exchange, participants will be eligible to receive predetermined incentives.

Monitoring and Termination of Status

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