

24-514: Modifications to the Gateway to NYMEX Oil Options Program



Timothy Elliott
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel
Legal Department

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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 Gateway to NYMEX Oil Options Program
NYMEX Submission No. 24-514**

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 Gateway to NYMEX Oil Options Program ("Program"). The modifications to the Program will become effective on February 1, 2025.

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

NYMEX reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("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: Monitoring of Trading, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, Compliance with Rules, Availability of General Information, and Recordkeeping.

The Program does 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 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 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.

Sincerely,

/s/ Timothy Elliott
Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

EXHIBIT 1

Gateway to NYMEX Oil Options 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 and Refined options products that are traded on the CME Globex Platform or submitted for clearing through CME ClearPort, with the exception of Brent Crude Oil Futures-Style Margin Option ("BZO") ("Products").

Eligible Participants

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

Program Term

Start date is February 1, 2020. End date is ~~January 31, 2025~~ January 31, 2026, or the date on which the Exchange determines to modify, extend, or terminate the Program. Participants will be given notice of any changes to the Program Term.

Hours

N/A

Obligations

Participants must meet certain volume thresholds, as determined by the Exchange, in order to receive the incentives.

Incentives

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

Monitoring and Termination of Status

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