

Timothy Elliott Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel Legal Department

December 20, 2024

#### 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 Gas Options Portfolio Program NYMEX Submission No. 24-571

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of plans to modify the NYMEX Gas Options Portfolio 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 <u>underlined</u> and deletions <del>overstruck</del>.

The Exchange 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 and NYMEX 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. Participants in the Program will be selected by Exchange staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the NYMEX rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. All participants must execute a contractual agreement with 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 <u>http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</u>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail <u>CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com</u> or contact Rachel Johnson at 312-466-4393 or via e-mail at <u>Rachel.Johnson@cmegroup.com</u>.

Sincerely,

/s/ Timothy Elliott Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit 1

# **EXHIBIT 1**

# **NYMEX Gas Options Portfolio Program**

#### Program Purpose

The purpose of the Program is to build liquidity in NYMEX natural gas options products. The resulting increase in liquidity for these products benefits all participant segments in the market.

## Product Scope

All NYMEX natural gas options ("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.

#### **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.