



**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Submission No. 18-328  
April 23, 2017

Mr. Christopher J. Kirkpatrick  
Secretary of the Commission  
Office of the Secretariat  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission  
Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20581

**RE: Recertification of Dormant Equity Index Contracts  
Submission Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Act and Regulation 40.6**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended ("Act"), and Commission Regulation 40.6, ICE Futures U.S., Inc. ("IFUS" or "Exchange") hereby certifies that the MSCI USA Index Futures Contract ("Contract"), which has become dormant under Commission Regulation 40.1(b), continues to comply with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder and will remain listed by the Exchange.

The Contract is listed on IFUS pursuant to Chapter 23 of the Exchange's Rules, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A. Please note that the terms and conditions of the Contract are not being changed. Furthermore, the Contract is cleared by ICE Clear U.S., a derivatives clearing organization which clears all Exchange contracts other than Energy contracts; and the Exchange's Market Regulation staff performs the compliance and market surveillance function for the Contract.

The Exchange certifies that the Contract remains in compliance with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder. The Exchange is not aware of any substantive opposing views with respect to the continued listing of the Contract. ICE Futures US further certifies that a copy of this submission was posted on the Exchange's website concurrent with its filing with the Commission, which can be found at (<https://www.theice.com/futures-us/regulation#rule-filings>).

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at 212-748-4021 or at [jason.fusco@theice.com](mailto:jason.fusco@theice.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason V. Fusco', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jason V. Fusco

Assistant General Counsel  
Market Regulation

Enc.

cc: Division of Market Oversight  
New York Regional Office

## **EXHIBIT A**

### **CHAPTER 23**

#### **MSCI INDEX FUTURES AND OPTIONS**

##### **23.1 Scope of Chapter**

This chapter is limited in application to trading of MSCI Index Futures Contracts. The procedures for trading, clearing, settlement, and any other matters not specifically covered herein shall be governed by the general Rules of the Exchange.

Each MSCI Index referenced in this chapter is subject to change by MSCI, Inc. as set forth in the MSCI Global Investable Market Indices Methodology: *Index Construction Objectives, Guiding Principles and Methodology for the MSCI Global Investable Market Indices* as that document is amended, updated and replaced from time-to-time. Pursuant to the terms of the license granted by MSCI to the Exchange, under certain circumstances, the Exchanges may become responsible for maintaining, changing or amending the index upon which the Futures specified in this Chapter is valued.

The terms and conditions of the Futures Contracts specified in this Chapter are deemed to include any relevant governmental, regulatory or court decree or order as recognized by the Exchange in a Notice to Members.

##### **23.2 Months Traded**

In the absence of any other provisions in the respective Sub-Chapter for a particular MSCI Index Futures Contract, trading in the MSCI Index Futures Contracts shall be conducted in March, June, September and December delivery months. The number of months open for trading at a given time shall be determined by the Exchange.

##### **23.3 Last Trading Day**

In the absence of any other provisions in the respective Sub-Chapter for a particular MSCI Index Futures Contract, the last day of trading for each MSCI Index Futures Contract shall be the third Friday of the contract month.

##### **23.4 Cash Settlement Procedures**

###### **(a) Settlement**

MSCI Index Futures Contracts open at the termination of trading shall be cash settled as set forth in paragraph (b) of this Rule using the Final Settlement Value as provided in the Sub-Chapter for the respective MSCI Index Futures Contract.

###### **(b) Final Settlement Payment**

Payment in final settlement of an MSCI Index Futures Contract will be made in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules on the Business Day following the termination of trading by Clearing Members with open positions at the time of termination of trading of the MSCI Index Futures

Contract. The amount of the final settlement payment to be made or received will be calculated based on the final settlement value as a normal variation payment.

### **23.5 Notice Regarding MSCI**

The MSCI Index Futures are not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by MSCI Inc. (“MSCI”), any affiliate of MSCI or any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling any Indexes. The MSCI Index Futures have not been passed on by MSCI, any of its affiliates or any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling any Indexes as to their legality or suitability with respect to any person or entity. MSCI, its affiliates and any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes do not guarantee the originality, accuracy and/or completeness of the MSCI Indexes or any data included therein. Neither MSCI, any of its affiliates nor any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes makes any express or implied warranties, and expressly disclaims all warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose or use with respect to the related Futures Contract, the MSCI Index or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall MSCI, any of its affiliates or any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes have any liability for any direct, special, punitive, indirect, or consequential damages, claims, losses or expenses relating to any futures or options contracts or caused by any errors or delays in calculating or disseminating the MSCI Indexes. Neither MSCI, any of its affiliates nor any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes has any obligation to take the needs of the issuers of the Contracts, the owners of the MSCI Index Futures or the Exchange into consideration in determining, composing or calculating any MSCI Indexes. Neither MSCI its affiliates nor any other party involved in, or related to, making or compiling the MSCI Indexes is responsible for or have participated in the determination of the timing of, prices at, or quantities of the MSCI Index Futures to be issued or in the determination or calculation of the equation by which the MSCI Index Futures are redeemable for cash.

## **23.A.003 MSCI USA INDEX FUTURES**

### **Trading Schedule**

The hours of trading in MSCI USA Index Futures Contracts shall be determined by the Exchange. On the last day of trading in an expiring future, the closing time for such future shall be 9:30 a.m. New York time.

### **Trading Unit**

The unit of trading shall be \$50.00 times the MSCI USA Index.

### **Price Increments**

The minimum price fluctuations for the MSCI USA Index Futures shall be 0.10 Index Points, which is \$5.00 per contract. Contracts shall not be made on any other price basis with the exception of certain Block Trades as may be specified by the Exchange, in which case the minimum price fluctuation shall be 0.01 Index Points, which is \$0.50 per contract.

### **Trading Halts on Underlying Securities Exchanges**

On any Business Day when a general trading halt occurs on the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NYSE") pursuant to NYSE Rule 80B, or any other relevant national securities exchange, trading in the MSCI USA Index Futures shall be halted. Once trading in the primary securities markets resumes after an NYSE Rule 80B trading halt or similar rule on another relevant national securities exchange, trading in the MSCI USA Index Futures Contracts shall resume and the next applicable price limit shall apply.

### **Final Settlement Value**

The final settlement value for purposes of the contract's cash settlement shall be the MSCI USA Index as calculated by MSCI rounded to the nearest 1/100<sup>th</sup> of an index point. This value shall be based on a special opening quotation. The Special Opening Quotation shall be a special quotation of the Index based on the opening prices of the component stock in the index, determined on the third Friday of the contract month. If the Index is not scheduled to be published on the third Friday of the contract month, the Special Opening Quotation shall be determined on the first earlier day for which the Index is scheduled to be published. If the primary market for a component stock in the index does not open on the day scheduled for determination of the Special Opening Quotation, then the price of that stock shall be determined, for the purposes of calculating the Special Opening Quotation, based on the opening price of that stock on the next day its primary market is open for trading. If a component stock in the index does not trade on the day scheduled for determination of the Special Opening Quotation while the primary market for that stock is open for trading, the price of that stock shall be determined, for the purposes of calculating the Special Opening Quotation, based on the last sale price of that stock.