

May 18, 2018

Via CFTC Portal Submissions

Mr. Christopher Kirkpatrick Secretary of the Commission Office of the Secretariat Commodity Futures Trading Commission 3 Lafayette Centre 1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, N.W. Washington D.C. 20581

RE: Rule Certification: Nadex Amends Strike Width for Daily Crude Oil Binary Contracts - Submission Pursuant to Commission Regulation §40.6(a)

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended (the "Act"), and §40.6(a) of the regulations promulgated by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the "Commission") under the Act, North American Derivatives Exchange, Inc. ("Nadex") hereby submits to the Commission its intent to update its Rule 12.9 to amend the strike width for the Daily Crude Oil Binary Contracts, expiring daily at 2:30pm ET, from 0.50 to 0.10. This change is being made due to a decrease in volatility in the underlying NYMEX® Crude Oil Futures market, in order to create more attractive and tradeable contracts in the Nadex product.

## **DCM Core Principles**

Nadex has identified the following Designated Contract Market ("DCM") Core Principle as potentially being impacted by the amendments discussed herein: Core Principle 7 Availability of General Information.

Core Principle 7 (Availability of General Information), implemented by Regulation 38.400, requires the DCM make available to the public accurate information concerning the terms and conditions of the contracts of the contract market. Nadex currently makes its Rulebook available to the public on its website and will continue to do so after the amendments discussed herein are implemented. The Rulebook contains the contract specifications for the Daily Crude Oil Binary contracts, where the strike width for those contracts can be found.

North American Derivatives Exchange, Inc., 200 West Jackson Blvd., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606

Accordingly, these amendments will not negatively affect Nadex's ability to comply with this Core Principle.

# **DCO Core Principles**

Nadex has not identified any Derivatives Clearing Organization ("DCO") Core Principles as potentially being impacted by the amendments discussed herein.

These Rule changes have been outlined in Exhibit A. The amendments to the Rulebook are set forth in Exhibit B. Any deletions are stricken out while the amendments and/or additions are underlined.

Nadex hereby certifies that the additions contained herein comply with the Act, as amended, and the Commission Regulations adopted thereunder. No substantive opposing views were expressed to Nadex with respect to any of these actions.

Nadex hereby certifies that notice of these amendments was posted on its website at the time of this filing.

In accordance with the 10-day review period set forth in Commission Regulation 40.6(b), Nadex plans to implement these Rule changes for the start of business on trade date June 5, 2018.

Should you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at (312) 884-0927 or by email at jaime.walsh@nadex.com.

Sincerely,

Jaime M. Walsh Legal Counsel

# **EXHIBIT A**

Rule	Asset	<b>Duration/Close Time</b>	Action	Effective Date
12.9	Daily Crude Oil Binary Contract	Daily, 2:30pm ET	Amend strike width for Daily Crude Oil Binary contract.	6/5/2018

## **EXHIBIT B**

#### Amendment of Rules 12.9

(The following Rule amendments are underlined and deletions are stricken out)

**RULES 1.1 – 12.8 [UNCHANGED]** 

#### **RULE 12.9 CRUDE OIL BINARY CONTRACTS**

- (a) SCOPE These Rules shall apply to the Class of Contracts referred to as the Crude Oil Binary Contract issued by Nadex.
- (b) UNDERLYING The Underlying for this Class of Contracts is WTI Light, Sweet Crude Oil price per barrel (in US dollars), obtained from the WTI Light, Sweet Crude Oil Futures contracts ("CFC") traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange ("NYMEX®"). The CFC trade prices that will be used for the Underlying will be taken from all twelve CFC delivery months: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, or December (each a "CFC Delivery Month"). The date on which a new delivery month will be used as the Underlying for Nadex contracts (i.e. "Start Date") is one calendar day after the End Date for the previous delivery month contract. The last day on which a delivery month will be used as the Underlying for Nadex contracts (i.e. "End Date") is the Friday of the week preceding the Underlying futures contracts Expiration Date. If the Underlying futures contracts Expiration Date falls on a Monday, the End Date for that specific delivery month will be the Friday of the week preceding the week of the Underlying futures contracts Expiration Date, i.e. not the Friday that is one business day prior to the Monday Expiration Date. For example, the Nymex Crude Oil March 2012 futures have an Expiration Date of February 21, 2012. The last day on which the Crude Oil March 2012 futures prices will be used as the Underlying for Nadex contracts and to calculate the Expiration Value on the Expiration Date for the relevant Crude Oil contracts will be the Friday of the preceding week. Therefore, the End Date for using Nymex Crude Oil March 2012 futures will be February 17, 2012 and the Start Date for the next delivery month, Nymex Crude Oil April 2012 futures, will be February 18, 2012. The Nymex Crude Oil November 2012 futures, however, have an Expiration Date of Monday, October 22, 2012. The last day on which the Crude Oil November 2012 futures prices will be as the Underlying for Nadex contracts and to calculate the Expiration Value on the Expiration Date for the relevant Crude Oil contracts will be October 12, 2012, rather than

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Supra, at fn 4.

October 19, 2012, and the Start Date for the next delivery month, Nymex Crude Oil December 2012 futures will be October 13, 2012.

- (c) SOURCE AGENCY The Source Agency is Nadex.
- (d) TYPE The type of Contract is a Binary Contract.
- (e) ISSUANCE For each planned release by the Source Agency of the Underlying, Nadex will issue various Contracts, each of a different Series. A new issuance of Contracts will commence no later than two (2) business days following the Expiration Date.
- (f) PAYOUT CRITERION The Payout Criterion for each Contract will be set by Nadex at the time the Binary Contracts are initially issued. For the Crude Oil Binary Contract, the Payout Criteria for the Contracts will be set as follows:
  - (i) WEEKLY CRUDE OIL BINARY CONTRACTS
  - (1) EXPIRATION TIME 2:30PM ET CLOSE
  - (2) STRIKE INTERVAL WIDTH The interval width between each strike level shall be 1.00.
  - (3) NUMBER OF STRIKE LEVELS LISTED Thirteen (13) strike levels will be listed for each Weekly Crude Oil Binary Contract Series.
  - (4) STRIKE LEVELS GENERATED Strike levels will be generated such that Binary Contract "W" is valued 'at-the-money' in relation to the Underlying market as determined by the Source Agency, immediately before the issuance of these Contracts, and shall be measured in U.S. cents rounded to the nearest value ending in either 0.25 or 0.75 as reported by the Source Agency. Six (6) strike levels will be generated above Binary Contract W at an interval of 1.00, and six (6) strike levels will be generated below Binary Contract W at an interval of 1.00 (e.g. W 1.00; W; W + 1.00). The Contract will have a Payout Criterion of greater than the strike level value.
    - (ii) DAILY CRUDE OIL BINARY CONTRACTS
  - (1) EXPIRATION TIME 2:30PM ET CLOSE
  - (2) STRIKE INTERVAL WIDTH The interval width between each strike level shall be 0.500.10.

- (3) NUMBER OF STRIKE LEVELS LISTED Twenty-three (23) strike levels will be listed for each Daily Crude Oil Binary Contract Series.
- (4) STRIKE LEVELS GENERATED Strike levels will be generated such that Binary Contract "Y" is valued 'at-the-money' in relation to the Underlying market as determined by the Source Agency, immediately before the issuance of these Contracts, and shall be measured in U.S. cents rounded to the nearest value ending in 0.5 as reported by the Source Agency. Eleven (11) strike levels will be generated above Binary Contract Y at an interval of 0.500.10, and eleven (11) strike levels will be generated below Binary Contract Y at an interval of 0.500.10 (e.g. Y 0.500.10; Y; Y + 0.500.10). The Contract will have a Payout Criterion of greater than the strike level value.

## (iii) INTRADAY CRUDE OIL BINARY CONTRACTS

- (1) EXPIRATION TIME 10:00AM, 11:00AM, 12:00PM, 1:00PM, 2:00PM ET CLOSE
- (2) STRIKE INTERVAL WIDTH The interval width between each strike level shall be 0.2.
- (3) NUMBER OF STRIKE LEVELS LISTED Nine (9) strike levels will be listed for each Intraday Crude Oil Binary Contract Series.
- (4) STRIKE LEVELS GENERATED Strike levels will be generated such that Binary Contract "Z" is valued 'at-the-money' in relation to the Underlying market as determined by the Source Agency, immediately before the issuance of these Contracts, and shall be measured in U.S. cents rounded to the nearest value ending in 0.01 as reported by the Source Agency. Four (4) strike levels will be generated above Binary Contract Z at an interval of 0.2, and four (4) strike levels will be generated below Binary Contract Z at an interval of 0.2 (e.g. Z 0.2; Z; Z + 0.2). The Contract will have a Payout Criterion of greater than the strike level value.
- (iv) Nadex may list additional Crude Oil Binary Contract with different ranges of Payout Criteria on a discretionary basis in accordance with the CEA and Commission Regulations.
- (g) MINIMUM TICK The Minimum Tick size for the Crude Oil Binary Contract shall be \$0.25.
- (h) POSITION LIMIT The Position Limits for the \$100 Crude Oil Binary Contracts shall be 2,500 Contracts.

- (i) LAST TRADING DATE The Last Trading Date in a Series is the same date as the Expiration Date.
- (j) SETTLEMENT DATE The Settlement Date will be the date on which the Crude Oil Binary Contract as reported by the Source Agency.
- (k) EXPIRATION DATE The Expiration Date of the Contract will be the date on which the Crude Oil price or level is released by the Source Agency.
- (1) SETTLEMENT VALUE The Settlement Value is the amount paid to the holder of the in the money Contract on the Settlement Date. The Settlement Value of an in the money Crude Oil Binary Contract is \$100.
- (m) EXPIRATION VALUE The Expiration Value is the price or value of Crude Oil released by the Source Agency on the Expiration Date. The Expiration Value is calculated by the Source Agency by taking the last twenty-five (25) CFC trade prices just prior to the close of trading of the Crude Oil Variable Contract and removing the highest five (5) CFC trade prices and the lowest five (5) CFC trade prices, using the remaining fifteen (15) CFC trade prices to calculate the Expiration Value. The calculation used is a simple average of all fifteen (15) CFC trade prices, rounded to one decimal point past the precision of the underlying market.
- (n) CONTINGENCIES If no level is actually announced on the Expiration Date due to a delay, postponement or otherwise in such release announcement by the Source Agency, the Settlement Date will be delayed until the Underlying number is released for that Series.

RULES 12.10 – 12.78 [UNCHANGED]

End of Rulebook