

#### BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

Submission No. 17-95 June 12, 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: Certification of Dormant Metal Options 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 metal option contracts set forth in the table below (collectively the "Contracts"), which have become dormant under Commission Regulation 40.1(b), continue to comply with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder and will remain listed by the Exchange.

Code	Contract	Rule Chapter
YG	Options on Mini Gold Futures	37
YI	Options on 1,000oz Mini Silver Futures	38
ZG	Options on 100oz Gold Futures	33
ZI	Options on 5,000oz Silver Futures	35

The Contracts are listed on IFUS pursuant to Chapter 33, 35, 37 and 38 of the Exchange's Rules, attached hereto as Exhibit A. Please note that the terms and conditions of the Contracts are not being. Furthermore, the Contracts are 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 Contracts.

The Exchange certifies that each 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 Contracts. 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 (<a href="https://www.theice.com/futures-us/regulation#rule-filings">https://www.theice.com/futures-us/regulation#rule-filings</a>).

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

Sincerely,

Jason V. Fusco Assistant General Counsel

Market Regulation

Enc.

Division of Market Oversight New York Regional Office cc:

#### **EXHIBIT A**

# 100 OZ GOLD FUTURES OPTIONS

#### 32.1 Scope of Chapter

This chapter is limited in application to put and call options on 100 oz. Gold futures. In addition to the Rules of this chapter, transactions in options on 100 oz. Gold futures shall be subject to the general Rules of the Exchange insofar as applicable.

# 32.2 Options Characteristics

#### (a) Contract Months

Trading may be conducted in the nearby Gold futures options contract month and any succeeding months *provided*, *however*, that the Exchange may determine not to list a contract month.

All option contract months shall expire into the nearest of the standard six month contract cycle. For the February, April, June, August, October or December option contracts, the underlying Futures Contract will be the corresponding February, April, June, August, October or December Futures Contract. For serial option contracts traded in January, March, May, July, September or November, the underlying Futures Contract will be the nearest February, April, June, August, October or December Futures Contract, respectively. For example, the underlying Futures Contract for a January serial option is the nearest February Futures Contract.

#### **Trading Unit**

One 100 oz. Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month.

## **Minimum Fluctuations**

The premium for Gold futures options shall be in multiples of 10 cents per troy ounce of a 100 oz. Gold Futures Contract which shall equal \$10 per contract.

However, a position may be initiated or liquidated in 100 oz. Gold futures options at a premium ranging from \$1.00 to \$9.00, in \$1.00 increments per option contract.

#### **Trading Hours**

The hours of trading for options on 100 oz. Gold futures shall be determined by the Exchange. On the last day of trading in an expiring option, the closing time for such options shall be 1:30 p.m. New York time.

#### **Exercise Prices**

Trading shall be conducted for put and call options with striking prices (the "strikes") in integral multiples of \$25 per troy ounce per Gold Futures Contract (i.e., 1625, 1650, 1675, etc.) and in integral multiples of \$50 per troy ounce per Gold Futures Contract (i.e., 1600, 1650, 1700, etc.) as follows:

#### For all months:

In integral multiples of 55 dollars, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strikes shall be listed: one with a strike price closest to the previous day's settlement price of the underlying Gold Futures Contract, the next four consecutive higher and the next four consecutive lower strikes (the "initial band"). If the previous day's settlement strike price is midway between two strike prices, the closest price shall be the higher of the two.

In integral multiples of 50 dollars, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strike prices shall be listed: the next ten consecutive higher strikes above, and the next ten consecutive lower strikes below, the initial band.

No new striking prices may be added to an option during the month in which it expires.

(D) Notwithstanding (A), (B) and (C) the Exchange may modify the procedure for listing of strike prices including the integral multiples, the number of strike prices and any period in which new strike prices may or may not be added, as it deems appropriate to respond to market conditions.

#### Reserved

## Nature of Options on 100 oz. Gold Futures Contract

The buyer of one 100 oz. Gold futures put option may exercise his option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 32.2), to assume a short position of one 100 oz. Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one 100 oz. Gold futures put option incurs the obligation of assuming a long position of one 100 oz. Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a put option buyer.

The buyer of one 100 oz. Gold futures call option may exercise his option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 32.2), to assume a long position of one 100 oz. Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one 100 oz. Gold futures call option incurs the obligation of assuming a short position of one 100 oz. Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a call option buyer.

## **Termination of Trading**

The last trading day for standard Gold futures options (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) shall be the fourth business day prior to the first calendar day of the corresponding Gold futures delivery month.

The last trading day for serial Gold futures options (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, Nov) shall be the fourth business day prior to the first calendar day of the option month.

If the last trading day falls on a Friday or immediately prior to an Exchange holiday, the last trading day will occur on the previous business day.

#### **Contract Modification**

Specifications shall be fixed as of the first day of trading of a contract except that all options must conform to government regulations in force at the time of exercise. If the U.S. government, an agency, or duly constituted body thereof issues an order, ruling, directive, or law inconsistent with these Rules, such order, ruling, directive, or law shall be construed to become part of the Rules and all open and new options contracts shall be subject to such government orders.

## 32.3 Exercise and Assignment

The following shall apply to the exercise and assignment of 100 oz. Gold futures options.

# (a) Exercise of Option

100 oz. Gold futures options are American-style exercise. The buyer of a Gold futures option may exercise the option on any business day prior to expiration by giving notice of exercise to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on such day.

After the close of trading in the expiring options on expiration day, all in-the-money options shall be automatically exercised, unless notice to cancel automatic exercise is given to the Clearing Organization. Notice to cancel automatic exercise shall be given to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on the last day of trading.

Unexercised Gold futures options shall expire at 8:00 p.m., New York Time, on the last day of trading.

## Assignment

Exercise Notices accepted by the Clearing Organization shall be assigned to Clearing Members' open short positions in the same series in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules. A Clearing Member to which an Exercise Notice is assigned shall be notified thereof as soon as practicable after such notice is assigned by the Clearing Organization.

The Clearing Member assigned an Exercise Notice shall be assigned a short position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised or a long position if a put is exercised. The Clearing Member representing the option buyer shall be assigned a long position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised and a short position if a put is exercised.

All such futures positions shall be assigned at a price equal to the exercise price of the option and shall be marked to market in accordance with the Rules of the Clearing Organization on the trading day of acceptance by the Clearing Organization of the Exercise Notice.

Amended by the Board October 22, 2014; effective October 28, 2014 [¶ (a)].

#### 32.4 Corrections to Options Exercises

Corrections to option exercises, including automatic exercises, may be accepted by the Clearing Organization after the 7:00 p.m. New York time deadline and up to the beginning of final option expiration processing *provided* that such corrections are necessary due to: (1) a bona fide clerical error, (2) an unreconciled exchange option transaction(s), or (3) an extraordinary circumstance where the clearing firm and customer are unable to communicate final option exercise instructions prior to the deadline. The decision whether a correction is acceptable will be made by the President of the Clearing Organization, or the President's designee, and such decision will be final.

## 32.5 Payment of Option Premium

# CHAPTER 35 5,000 OZ. SILVER FUTURES OPTIONS

#### 35.1. Scope of Chapter

This chapter is limited in application to put and call options on 5,000 oz. Silver futures. In addition to the Rules of this chapter, transactions in options on 5,000 oz. Silver futures shall be subject to the general Rules of the Exchange insofar as applicable.

#### 35.2. Options Characteristics

#### **Contract Months**

Trading may be conducted in the nearby Silver futures options contract month and any succeeding months *provided*, *however*, that the Exchange may determine not to list a contract month.

All option contract months shall expire into the nearest of the standard five month contract cycle. For option contracts traded in March, May, July, September or December, the underlying Futures Contract will be the corresponding March, May, July, September or December Futures Contract. For serial option contracts traded in January, February, April, June, August, October or November, the underlying Futures Contract will be the nearest March, May, July, September or December Futures Contract, respectively. For example, the underlying Futures Contract for a January serial option is the nearest March Futures Contract.

## **Trading Unit**

One 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month.

#### **Minimum Fluctuations**

The premium for 5,000 oz. Silver futures options shall be in multiples of one-tenth of a cent per troy ounce of a 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Contract which shall equal \$5 per contract.

However, a position may be initiated or liquidated in 5,000 oz. Silver futures options at a premium ranging from \$1.00 to \$4.00, in \$1.00 increments per option contract.

## **Trading Hours**

The hours of trading for options on Silver Futures Contracts shall be determined by the Exchange. On the last day of trading in an expiring option, the closing time for such options shall be 1:25 p.m. New York time.

## **Exercise Prices**

Trading shall be conducted for put and call options with striking prices (the "strikes") in integral multiples of \$1.00 per troy ounce per Silver Futures Contract (i.e., 32.00, 33.00, 34.00, etc.), and in integral multiples of \$2.50 per troy ounce per Silver Futures Contract (i.e., 32.50, 35.00, 37.50, etc.), as follows:

#### For all months:

In integral multiples of \$1.00, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strike prices shall be listed: one with a strike price closest to the previous day's settlement price of the underlying Silver Futures Contract, the next five consecutive higher and the next five consecutive lower strike prices (the "initial band"). If the previous day's settlement price is midway between two strikes, the closest price shall be the higher of the two.

In integral multiples of \$2.50, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strikes shall be listed: the next six consecutive higher strikes above, and the next six consecutive lower strikes below, the initial band.

For all months other than the first six nearby months but not greater than 2 years to expiration:

In integral multiples of 25 cents, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strikes shall be listed: one with a strike closest to the previous day's settlement price of the underlying Silver Futures Contract, the next six consecutive higher and the next six consecutive lower strikes (the "initial band"). If the previous day's settlement price is midway between two strikes, the closest price shall be the higher of the two.

In integral multiples of 50 cents, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strikes shall be listed: the next four consecutive higher strikes above, and the next four consecutive lower strikes below, the initial band.

No new striking prices may be added to an option during the month in which it expires.

Notwithstanding (A), (B) and (C) the Exchange may modify the procedure for listing of strike prices including the integral multiples, the number of strike prices and any period in which new strike prices may or may not be added, as it deems appropriate to respond to market conditions.

#### Reserved

#### Reserved

# Nature of 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Options

The buyer of one 5,000 oz. Silver futures put option may exercise his option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 35.2), to assume a short position of one 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one 5,000 oz. Silver futures put option incurs the obligation of assuming a long position of one 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a put option buyer.

The buyer of one 5,000 oz. Silver futures call option may exercise his option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 35.2), to assume a long position of one 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one 5,000 oz. Silver futures call option incurs the obligation of assuming a short position of one 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract

month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a call option buyer.

# **Termination of Trading**

The last trading day for standard Silver futures options (March, May, July, September, December) shall be the fourth business day prior to the first calendar day of the corresponding Silver futures delivery month.

The last trading day for serial Silver futures options (January, February, April, June, August, October, November) shall be the fourth business day prior to the first calendar day of the option month.

If the last trading day falls on a Friday or immediately prior to an Exchange holiday, the last trading day will occur on the previous business day.

#### **Contract Modification**

Specifications shall be fixed as of the first day of trading of a contract except that all options must conform to government regulations in force at the time of exercise. If the U.S. government, an agency, or duly constituted body thereof issues an order, ruling, directive, or law inconsistent with these Rules, such order, ruling, directive, or law shall be construed to become part of the Rules and all open and new options contracts shall be subject to such government orders.

# 35.3. Exercise and Assignment

The following shall apply to the exercise and assignment of 5,000 oz. Silver Futures Options.

## (a) Exercise of Option

Silver futures options are American-style exercise. The buyer of a Silver futures option may exercise the option on any business day prior to expiration by giving notice of exercise to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on such day.

After the close of trading in the expiring options on expiration day, all in-the-money options shall be automatically exercised, unless notice to cancel automatic exercise is given to the Clearing Organization. Notice to cancel automatic exercise shall be given to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York Time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on the last day of trading.

Unexercised 5,000 oz. Silver futures options shall expire at 8:00 p.m., New York Time, on the last day of trading.

## (b) Assignment

Exercise Notices accepted by the Clearing Organization shall be assigned to Clearing Members' open short positions in the same series in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules. A Clearing Member to which an Exercise Notice is assigned shall be notified thereof as soon as practicable after such notice is assigned by the Clearing Organization.

The Clearing Member assigned an Exercise Notice shall be assigned a short position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised or a long position if a put is exercised. The Clearing Member representing the option buyer shall be assigned a long position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised and a short position if a put is exercised.

All such futures positions shall be assigned at a price equal to the exercise price of the option and shall be marked to market in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules on the trading day of acceptance by the Clearing Organization of the Exercise Notice.

Amended by the Board October 22, 2014; effective October 28, 2014 [¶ (a)].

### 35.4 Corrections to Options Exercises

Corrections to option exercises, including automatic exercises, may be accepted by the Clearing Organization after the 7:00 p.m. New York Time deadline and up to the beginning of final option expiration processing *provided* that such corrections are necessary due to: (1) a bona fide clerical error, (2) an unreconciled Exchange option transaction(s), or (3) an extraordinary circumstance where the clearing firm and customer are unable to communicate final option exercise instructions prior to the deadline. The decision whether a correction is acceptable will be made by the President of the Clearing Organization, or the President's designee, and such decision will be final.

## 35.5 Payment of Option Premium

# Chapter 37 MINI-SIZED GOLD FUTURES OPTIONS

## 37.1 Scope of Chapter

This chapter is limited in application to put and call options on Mini-Sized Gold futures. In addition to the Rules of this chapter, transactions in options on Mini-Sized Gold futures shall be subject to the general Rules of the Exchange insofar as applicable.

## 37.2 Options Characteristics

#### (a) Contract Months

Trading may be conducted in the nearby Mini-Sized Gold futures options month and any succeeding months *provided*, *however*, that the Exchange may determine not to list a contract month.

All option contract months shall expire into the nearest of the standard six month contract cycle. For the February, April, June, August, October and December option contracts, the underlying Futures Contract will be the corresponding February, April, June, August, October or December Futures Contract. For serial option contracts traded in January, March, May, July, September and November, the underlying Futures Contract will be the nearest February, April, June, August, October or December Futures Contract, respectively. For example, the underlying Futures Contract for a January serial option is the nearest February Futures Contract.

## (b) Trading Unit

One Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month.

# (c) Minimum Fluctuations

The premium for Mini-Sized Gold futures options shall be in multiples of 10 cents per troy ounce of a Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract, which equals \$3.215 per contract.

## (d) Trading Hours

The hours of trading for options on Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contracts shall be determined by the Exchange. On the last day of trading in an expiring option, the closing time for such options shall be 1:30 p.m. New York time.

# (e) Exercise Prices

Trading shall be conducted for put and call options with striking prices (the "strikes") in integral multiples of \$25 per troy ounce per Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract (i.e., 1625, 1650, 1675, etc.) and in integral multiples of \$50 per troy ounce per Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract (i.e., 1600, 1650, 1700, etc.) as follows:

## (i) For all months:

- (A) In integral multiples of \$25, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strike prices shall be listed: one with a strike price closest to the previous day's settlement price of the underlying Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract, the next four consecutive higher and the next four consecutive lower strike prices (the "initial band"). If the previous day's settlement price is midway between two strike prices, the closest strike price shall be the higher of the two.
- (B) In integral multiples of \$50, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strike prices shall be listed: the next ten consecutive higher strikes above, and the next ten consecutive lower strikes below, the initial band.
- (C) No new striking prices may be added to an option during the month in which it expires.
- (D) Notwithstanding (A), (B) and (C) the Exchange may modify the procedure for listing of strike prices including the integral multiples, the number of strike prices and any period in which new strike prices may or may not be added, as it deems appropriate to respond to market conditions.

#### (f) Reserved

## (g) Nature of Options on Mini-Sized Gold Futures

The buyer of one Mini-Sized Gold futures put option may exercise the option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 37.2), to assume a short position of Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one Mini-Sized Gold futures put option incurs the obligation of assuming a long position of one Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a put option buyer.

The buyer of one Mini-Sized Gold futures call option may exercise the option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 37.2), to assume a long position of one Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one Mini-Sized Gold futures call option incurs the obligation of assuming a short position of one Mini-Sized Gold Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a call option buyer.

## (h) Termination of Trading

The last trading day for standard Mini-Sized Gold futures options (February, April, June, August, October, December) shall be the fourth Business Day prior to the first calendar day of the corresponding Mini-Sized Gold futures delivery month.

The last trading day for serial Mini-Sized Gold futures options (January, March, May, July, September, November) shall be the fourth Business Day prior to the first calendar day of the option month.

If the last trading day falls on a Friday or immediately prior to an Exchange holiday, the last trading day will occur on the previous Business Day.

## (i) Contract Modification

Specifications shall be fixed as of the first day of trading of a contract except that all options must conform to government regulations in force at the time of exercise. If the U.S. government, an agency, or duly constituted body thereof issues an order, ruling, directive, or law inconsistent with these Rules, such order, ruling, directive, or law shall be construed to become part of the Rules and all open and new options contracts shall be subject to such government orders.

Amended by the Board July 9, 2014; effective September 15, 2014 [ $\P(c)$ ].

## 37.3 Exercise and Assignment

The following shall apply to the exercise and assignment of Mini-Sized Gold futures options.

## (a) Exercise of Option

Mini-Sized Gold futures options are American-style exercise. The buyer of a Mini-Sized Gold futures option may exercise the option on any Business Day prior to expiration by giving notice of exercise to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on such day.

After the close of trading in the expiring options on expiration day, all in-the-money options shall be automatically exercised by the Clearing Organization, unless notice to cancel automatic exercise is given to the Clearing Organization. Notice to cancel automatic exercise shall be given to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on the last day of trading.

Unexercised Mini-Sized Gold futures options shall expire at 8:00 p.m., New York Time, on the last day of trading.

# (b) Assignment

Exercise Notices accepted by the Clearing Organization shall be assigned to Clearing Members' open short positions in the same series in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules. A Clearing Member to which an Exercise Notice is assigned shall be notified thereof as soon as practicable after such notice is assigned by the Clearing Organization.

The Clearing Member assigned an Exercise Notice shall be assigned a short position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised or a long position if a put is exercised. The Clearing Member representing the option buyer shall be assigned a long position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised and a short position if a put is exercised.

All such futures positions shall be assigned at a price equal to the exercise price of the option and shall be marked to market in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules on the trading day of acceptance by the Clearing Organization of the Exercise Notice.

#### (c) Corrections to Options Exercises

Corrections to option exercises, including automatic exercises, are not permitted under any circumstances, except pursuant to the Clearing Organization Rules.

Amended by the Board October 22, 2014; effective October 28, 2014 [¶ (a)].

# 37.4 Payment of Option Premium

#### **CHAPTER 38**

# MINI-SIZED SILVER FUTURES OPTIONS

# 38.1 Scope of Chapter

This chapter is limited in application to put and call options on Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contracts. In addition to the Rules of this chapter, transactions in options on Mini-Sized Silver futures shall be subject to the general Rules of the Exchange insofar as applicable.

#### 38.2 Options Characteristics

#### i. Contract Months

Trading may be conducted in the nearby Mini-Sized Silver futures options month and any succeeding months *provided*, *however*, that the Exchange may determine not to list a contract month.

All option contract months shall expire into the nearest of the standard five month contract cycle. For the March, May, July, September and December option contracts, the underlying Futures Contract will be the corresponding March, May, July, September or December Futures Contract. For serial option contracts traded in January, February, April, June, August, October and November, the underlying Futures Contract will be the nearest March, May, July, September or December Futures Contract, respectively. For example, the underlying Futures Contract for a January serial option is the nearest March Futures Contract.

#### ii. Trading Unit

One Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month.

#### iii. Minimum Fluctuations

The premium for Mini-Sized Silver futures options shall be in multiples of one-tenth of a cent per troy ounce of a Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contract which shall equal \$1 per contract.

## iv. Trading Hours

The hours of trading for options on Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contracts shall be determined by the Exchange. On the last day of trading in an expiring option, the closing time for such options shall be 1:25 p.m. New York time.

## v. Exercise Prices

Trading shall be conducted for put and call options with striking prices (the "strikes") in integral multiples of \$1.00 per troy ounce per Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contracts (i.e., 32.00, 33.00, 34.00, etc.) and in integral multiples of \$2.50 per troy ounce per Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contracts (i.e., 32.50, 35.00, 37.50, etc.) as follows:

#### 1. For all months:

- a. In integral multiples of \$1.00, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strike prices shall be listed: one with a strike price closest to the previous day's settlement price of the underlying Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contract, the next five consecutive higher and the next five consecutive lower strike prices (the "initial band"). If the previous day's settlement price is midway between two strikes, the closest price shall be the higher of the two.
- b. In integral multiples of \$2.50, at the commencement of trading for an option contract, the following strike prices shall be listed: the next six consecutive higher strikes above, and the next six consecutive lower strikes below, the initial band.
- c. No new striking prices may be added to an option during the month in which it expires.
- d. Notwithstanding (A), (B) and (C) the Exchange may modify the procedure for listing of strike prices including the integral multiples, the number of strike prices and any period in which new strike prices may or may not be added, as it deems appropriate to respond to market conditions.

#### vi. **Reserved**

#### vii. Nature of Options on Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contracts

The buyer of one Mini-Sized Silver futures put option may exercise the option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 38.2), to assume a short position of one Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one Mini-Sized Silver futures put option incurs the obligation of assuming a long position of one Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a put option buyer.

The buyer of one Mini-Sized Silver futures call option may exercise the option at any time prior to expiration (subject to Rule 38.2), to assume a long position of one Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was purchased. The seller of one Mini-Sized Silver futures call option incurs the obligation of assuming a short position of one Mini-Sized Silver Futures Contract of a specified contract month at a striking price set at the time the option was sold, upon exercise by a call option buyer.

# viii. Termination of Trading

The last trading day for standard Mini-Sized Silver futures options (January, March, May, July, September, December) shall be the fourth Business Day prior to the first calendar day of the corresponding Mini-Sized Silver futures delivery month.

The last trading day for serial Mini-Sized Silver futures options (February, April, June, August, October, November) shall be the fourth Business Day prior to the first calendar day of the option month.

If the last trading day falls on a Friday or immediately prior to an Exchange holiday, the last trading day will occur on the previous Business Day.

#### ix. Contract Modification

Specifications shall be fixed as of the first day of trading of a contract except that all options must conform to government regulations in force at the time of exercise. If the U.S. government, an agency, or duly constituted body thereof issues an order, ruling, directive, or law inconsistent with these Rules, such order, ruling, directive, or law shall be construed to become part of the Rules and all open and new options contracts shall be subject to such government orders.

# 38.3 Exercise and Assignment

The following shall apply to the exercise and assignment of Mini-Sized Silver Futures Options.

## i. Exercise of Option

Mini-Sized Silver futures options are American-style exercise. The buyer of a Mini-Sized Silver futures option may exercise the option on any Business Day prior to expiration by giving notice of exercise to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on such day.

After the close of trading in the expiring options on expiration day, all in-the-money options shall be automatically exercised by the Clearing Organization, unless notice to cancel automatic exercise is given to the Clearing Organization. Notice to cancel automatic exercise shall be given to the Clearing Organization by 6:00 p.m., New York Time, or by such other time designated by the Exchange, on the last day of trading.

Unexercised Mini-Sized Silver futures options shall expire at 8:00 p.m., New York Time, on the last day of trading.

#### ii. Assignment

Exercise Notices accepted by the Clearing Organization shall be assigned to Clearing Members' open short positions in the same series in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules. A Clearing Member to which an Exercise Notice is assigned shall be notified thereof as soon as practicable after such notice is assigned by the Clearing Organization.

The Clearing Member assigned an Exercise Notice shall be assigned a short position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised or a long position if a put is exercised. The Clearing Member representing the option buyer shall be assigned a long position in the underlying Futures Contract if a call is exercised and a short position if a put is exercised.

All such futures positions shall be assigned at a price equal to the exercise price of the option and shall be marked to market in accordance with the Clearing Organization Rules on the trading day of acceptance by the Clearing Organization of the Exercise Notice.

## iii. Corrections to Options Exercises

Corrections to option exercises, including automatic exercises, are not permitted under any circumstances, except pursuant to the Clearing Organization Rules.

Amended by the Board October 22, 2014; effective October 28, 2014 [¶ (i)].

# 38.4 Payment of Option Premium