

## **BY ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

Submission No. 16-104 September 1, 2016

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:** Amendments to Listing Cycle for Certain Option Contracts and Delegation of Authority to <u>President --Submission Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Act and Regulation 40.6(a)</u>

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Pursuant to CFTC Regulation 40.6(a), ICE Futures U.S., Inc. ("Exchange") hereby certifies amendments to Rule 19.205 and Standing Resolution 7, regarding the listing cycle for option contracts.

The amendments to Rule 19.205 eliminate the current detailed explanation of the number of contract months in the option listing cycle for Russell Index options, in favor of a general statement that options will be listed in such number of option contract months as determined by the Exchange. Such an amendment is consistent with other Exchange contract rules where number of option contract months that shall be listed at any time is not expressly codified in Rules, but rather, is as specified by the Exchange. The Exchange is listing for trading certain additional Russell Index futures contract months pursuant to existing rules governing futures contracts, and the amendment to Rule 19.205 will allow the listing of options for each such futures contract month. In addition, the Exchange is amending Resolution 7, which currently specifies various delegations of authority which the Board has made to the president, to authorize the president to determine this aspect of the listing cycle for all option contracts.

The Exchange certifies that the amendments, which will become effective on September 16, 2016, comply with the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended, and the regulations thereunder. Specifically, the amendments comply with Core Principle 7 (Availability of Information) as they will support the public dissemination of information concerning the terms and conditions of the option contracts listed by the Exchange. There were no substantive opposing views to the amendments. The Exchange further certifies that concurrent with this

filing a copy of this submission was posted on the Exchange's website at (<u>https://www.theice.com/futures-us/regulation#rule-filings</u>).

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at 212-748-4083 or Audrey.hirschfeld@theice.com.

Sincerely

Indrag T. Whisch feld

Audrey R. Hirschfeld SVP & General Counsel

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cc: Division of Market Oversight New York Regional Office

### **EXHIBIT A**

[in the text additions are underscored and deletions overstruck]

#### Rule 19.205. Months Traded

(a) Trading in Options shall be conducted in the Option Months <u>as determined by the Exchange from</u> <u>time to time.</u> <u>the following cycle: (i) the current calendar month, (ii) the two (2) months following the current calendar month, and (iii) March, June, September and December.</u>

(b) Trading shall at all times be conducted in such number of Option Months as shall, at the discretion of the President, be no less than three (3) and no more than six (6). Trading in a new Option Month shall be initiated at the opening of trading on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Business Day following the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Trading Day of the Underlying Futures Contract.]

(<u>be</u>) For Option Contracts in months during which Russell Index Futures Contracts are not listed for trading, the Underlying Futures Contract shall be the next futures contract month which is listed for trading: as an example, for April and May Options, the Underlying Futures Contract is June.

#### **R-7** Delegation of Authority to President and COO

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby delegates to the President authority to:

\* \* \*

2. adopt or amend and determine the effective date of Rules governing (i) trading hours; (ii) procedures for the purchase, sale or transfer of a Membership (excluding qualifications, rights or obligations of a Membership); (iii) <u>the number of months in the listing cycle for option</u> <u>contracts and option contract rules relating to procedures for listing Strike Prices</u>, Strike Price intervals and listing of Strike Prices on a discretionary basis;

[Remainder Unchanged]