FORECASTEX LLC 209 South LaSalle Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60604 Page 1 of 5

## Product Submission by ForecastEx LLC – Pursuant to 17 C.F.R. §§ 40.2

November 27, 2024 SUBMITTED VIA CFTC PORTAL Secretary of the Commission Office of the Secretariat U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20581

# Re: ForecastEx LLC – CFTC Regulation 40.2(a) Notification Regarding the Initial Listing of "Record Temperature Event Market"

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick,

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act and Section 40.2(a) of the regulations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, ForecastEx LLC ("ForecastEx" or the "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commission that it is self-certifying the "Record Temperature Event Market". ForecastEx will list an Forecast Contract corresponding to each annual release of the Average Global Temperature by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA").

#### The submission includes:

A concise explanation, analysis and background of the Contract;

- Certification;
- Appendix A with the Contract's Terms and Conditions;
- Confidential Appendices with further information; and
- A request for FOIA confidential treatment.

The Exchange certifies that this submission (other than those appendices for which confidential treatment has been requested) has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website.

Any questions regarding this filing, as well as any notices pursuant to Commission Regulation 40.2, should be directed to the attention of the undersigned at <a href="mailto:gdeese@forecastex.com">gdeese@forecastex.com</a> or 630-743-9013.

Respectfully submitted,

Graham Deese

ForecastEx Chief Regulatory Officer

Encl. (Appendix A)

cc: David Downey, ForecastEx Chief Executive Officer Andrew Naughton, ForecastEx Chief Financial Officer

# **Attachments:**

Appendix A - Contract Terms and Conditions

Appendix B (Confidential) – Explanation and Analysis of the Product

Appendix C (Confidential) – Certification that Contracts are not Readily Susceptible to Manipulation

## **Appendix A – Contract Terms and Conditions**

**Event Question:** Will [year] be the warmest year on record?

**Product Code: RT** 

**Instructions:** The Average Annual Global Temperatures are published by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA") in the first half of the month of January at 10:00 AM CT. Definitive release dates are determined no later than one week prior to a report's release and all public calendars will be updated accordingly. A schedule of releases are available: <a href="https://here.ncb

Underlying: This contract resolves based on whether NOAA reports the reference year as the warmest year since 1850. The Underlying can be accessed: <a href="https://here.">here.</a>. Parameter should be set to "Average Temperature Anomaly", Time scale should be set to "12-month", Month should be set to "December", start year should be set to "1850", End year should be set to the most recent year available, Region should be set to "Global", and Surface should be set to "Land and Ocean". After these settings are confirmed, the data should be plotted. This will show temperature anomalies by year as well as the rank of the year compared to other years. If there are changes made to NOAA's methodology that impact how the underlying is calculated, ForecastEx will use the data from the most recent up to date model to determine settlement. Links are provided for informational purposes only and the source agency may decide to publish the data at a different location at any time.

**Source Agency:** NOAA

Minimum Tick: The Minimum Tick size for the referred Contract shall be \$0.01.

**Listing Cycle:** ForecastEx will list annual contracts for first three years of releases for the Record Temperatures and then for the next two years that end in a 5 or 0 (for example, 2030 and 2035).

**Thresholds:** For each contract expiration, one threshold will be listed.

**Position Accountability:** The position accountability level is 250,000 Event Positions in any one Event Market.

**Last Trading Time:** 11:59:59 PM CT on the trading day preceding the Resolution Time.

**Payout Criteria:** The Settlement Value of each Record Temperature Contract is \$1.00 or \$0 depending on the Outcome of the Event Question. If the Outcome of the Event Question is "Yes", then holders of the "Yes" Position will be entitled to receive the Settlement Value of \$1.00 per contract and holders of the "No" Position will receive \$0.00. If the Outcome of the Event Question is "No", then holders of the "No" Position will be entitled to receive the Settlement Value of \$1.00 per contract and holders of the "Yes" Position will receive \$0.00.

**Resolution Time:** 10:00 AM CT when NOAA publishes the Average Global Temperature.

**Changes in Resolution Time**: The Resolution Time of a Contract is dependent on the time that NOAA releases Average Global Temperature data. There are circumstances where ForecastEx may change the Resolution Time of a Contract.

- 1. **Delay by Source Agency:** In the event that the release of the Average Global Temperature is delayed by NOAA, for instance in a government shutdown, ForecastEx will delay the Resolution Time of the Contract until such time as the NOAA releases Average Global Temperature for the reference year. In this case, ForecastEx would release a public notice to its website informing Market Participants that the Resolution of the Contract has been delayed and release a second notice to its website informing Market Participants when the contract ultimately resolves.
- 2. Contracts with no currently scheduled release date: NOAA generally publishes the release dates for Average Global Temperature up through the end of the current calendar year. ForecastEx will list multiple Average Global Temperature contracts that have Resolution dates beyond the currently published schedule of releases. For these contracts, ForecastEx will approximate the Resolution Time based on the anticipated release schedule from NOAA. Once NOAA has published the release schedule, ForecastEx will update the Resolution Times of the contract if necessary and publish a public notice to its website informing Market Participants of the revised Resolution Time.

**Expiration Time:** Same as Resolution time.

**Settlement Time:** Settlement for Resolved Record Temperature Contracts will occur after Resolution Time at 13:00 PM CT that same Business Day in accordance with ForecastEx Rule 603(b)(3)