

July 26, 2004

BY EMAIL

Office of the Secretariat
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

**Re: Certification: New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc.
Submission #04.96 (Listing of Additional Strike Prices for the
Gold, Copper, Heating Oil, Crude Oil, Unleaded Gasoline, Unleaded
Gasoline Crack, Natural Gas and Related Calendar Spread Option
Contracts)**

Dear CFTC Commissioners:

Pursuant to COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20, the President of the New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange") has directed that additional strike prices be added for certain contract months in the Gold, Copper, Heating Oil, Crude Oil, Unleaded Gasoline, Unleaded Gasoline Crack, Natural Gas and related Calendar Spread option contracts as detailed below:

(A) On July 20, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(1) at the strike price of 500 for the September 2004 contract month of the Unleaded Gasoline Crack option contract;

(2) at the strike price of 5550 for the September 2004 contract month of the Crude Oil option contract;

(B) On July 21, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(3) at the strike prices of 7300 and 8400 for the December 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(4) at the strike price of 8600 for the January 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(5) at the strike price of 600 for the March 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas One month Calendar Spread option contract;

(C) On July 22, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(6) at the strike price of 350 for the September 2004 contract month of the Gold option contract;

(7) at the strike price of 15600 for the October 2004 contract month of the Unleaded Gasoline option contract;

(8) at the strike price of 5100 for the November 2004 contract month of the Crude Oil option contract;

(9) at the strike price of 13800 for the January 2005 contract month of the Heating Oil option contract;

(D) On July 23, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(10) at the strike price of 5200 for the November 2004 contract month of the Crude Oil option contract;

(11) at the strike prices of 13900, 15100 and 15400 for the November 2004 contract month of the Heating Oil option contract;

(12) at the strike price of 16600 for the December 2004 contract month of the Heating Oil option contract;

(13) at the strike price of 128 for the December 2004 contract month of the Copper option contract;

(14) at the strike price of 8600 for the December 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(15) at the strike price of 8600 for the February 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(16) at the strike price of 13600 for the February 2005 contract month of the Heating Oil option contract;

(17) at the strike price of 12000 for the January 2006 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(18) at the strike price of 12000 for the February 2006 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(19) at the strike price of 12000 for the March 2006 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract; and

(E) On July 26, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(20) at the strike price of 8100 for the November 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract.

Pursuant to the terms of COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20, the strike prices noted above are in increments that are consistent with the pricing for the underlying futures contract. COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20 permit such directed strike prices to be effective upon adoption, provided that notice to the CFTC is given within three business days of the strike price listing.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at (212) 299-2207.

Very truly yours,

Brian Regan
Vice President & Counsel

cc: Christopher K. Bowen
George Henderson
Michael Campanelli