

## BY ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Submission No. 13-9 January 17, 2013

Ms. Melissa Jurgens
Secretary of the Commission
Office of the Secretariat
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, NW
Washington, DC 20581

Re: Amendments to Exchange Rule 19.06 – Trading Halt Procedures Submission Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Act and Regulation 40.6

Dear Ms. Jurgens:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c)(1) of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended, and Commission Regulation 40.6(a), ICE Futures U.S., Inc. ("IFUS" or "Exchange") hereby submits amendments to Rule19.06 which change the price limit and trading halt procedures for the Russell Complex Futures Contracts, as set forth in Exhibit A.

Currently, the price limit and trading halt rule for the IFUS Russell Complex Futures Contracts tracks the rules of the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") and other equity and derivative markets. Under Exchange Rule 19.06, when a general trading halt is ordered on the NYSE a similar halt is declared in our markets for the same period of time. The Rule also provides for three tranches of price limits which create trading halts based on the percentage move in the price of the Russell Futures Contract from the previous settlement price, or from the level at which a trading halt was triggered earlier in the trading session. The percentage in each tranche also is coordinated with NYSE and other equity derivative markets.

Subject to approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the NYSE and other equity markets are expected to implement new price limit and trading halt procedures on February 4, 2013. The new procedures will change the method of calculation and level of the price limits and the duration and applicability of the trading halts. While the Exchange will continue to halt trading in the Russell Complex Futures Contracts when a general trading halt is ordered on the NYSE, IFUS will no longer independently halt trading based on the percentage move in the price of the Russell Futures Contract. After consultation with Commission Staff, it was determined that such independent halts were not required as long as the Exchange halted trading when a general trading halt was ordered by the NYSE.

The tentative date for implementation of the amendments to Rule 19.06 is February 4, 2013, or the date on which the NYSE adopts it revisions to its Rule 80(B). No substantive opposing views were expressed by members or others.

The Exchange certifies that the amendments comply with the requirements of the Commodity Exchange Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder. The Exchange has reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act and has determined that the trading halt and price limit procedures in place for the Russell Complex Futures Contracts comply with Core Principles 3 (Contracts not Readily Subject to Manipulation), 4 (Prevention of Market Disruption) and 9 (Execution of Transactions). The Exchange will continue to observe trading halts in conjunction with the NYSE. In addition, the Exchange implemented Interval Price Limit ("IPL") functionality for Russell Complex Futures on March 12, 2012 (see Submission No. 12-06). The IPL functionality acts as a temporary circuit breaker feature on the trading platform, to diminish the likelihood and extent of short-term price spikes or aberrant market moves, making contracts less susceptible to manipulation, price distortion and disruption. The Exchange further certifies that, concurrent with this filing, a copy of this submission was posted on the Exchange's website and may be accessed at (https://www.theice.com/notices/RegulatoryFilings.shtml).

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.

cc: Division of Market Oversight

New York Regional Office

## **EXHIBIT A**

[In the text below additions are underscored and deletions struck out]

## Rule 19.06. Daily Price Limits and Trading Halts

Trading in the Russell Complex Futures Contracts will be subject to the following:

- (a) There shall be price limits corresponding to declines of 10.0%, 20.0% and 30.0% which are calculated at the beginning of each calendar quarter, based upon the average Settlement Price of the nearest primary Futures Contract during the month prior to the beginning of the quarter (denoted as "AP"). The calculation shall be as follows:
  - (i) The 10.00% price limit shall be 10% of the AP rounded to the nearest integral multiple of ten (10) index points ("Level 1 Limit");
    - (ii) The 20.0% price limit shall be two (2) times the 10.0% price limit ("Level 2 Limit"); and
    - (iii) The 30.0% price limit shall be three (3) times the 10.0% price limit ("Level 3 Limit").

The number of points calculated for each price Level Limit shall be the number of points subtracted from the previous day's Settlement Price in order to determine if the primary Futures Contract has been traded, is or would be offered, at a price equal to or more than the prescribed limit.

- (b) On any Business Day when a general trading halt occurs on the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. pursuant to NYSE Rule 80B, trading in the Russell Complex Futures Contracts shall be halted. Once trading in the primary securities market resumes after an NYSE Rule 80B trading halt, trading in the Russell Complex Futures Contracts shall resume and the next applicable price limit shall apply.
  - (c)(i) Subject to the qualifications set forth in clause (ii) of this paragraph (c), when the Exchange determines that, in any of the various Russell Complex Futures Contracts, the primary Futures Contract has been traded, is or would be offered, at a price that is equal to or more than the Level 1 Limit below its previous day's Settlement Price, trading shall cease for a period to be determined by the Exchange with notice provided to market participants of the time the market shall reopen. The next applicable price limit shall apply to such reopening.
    - (ii) If the Level 1 Limit has not been reached by or after 2:30 p.m. New York Time, the Level 2 Limit becomes the applicable price limit for the remainder of the trading day.
- (d) When the primary Futures Contract has been traded, is or would be offered, at a price that is equal to or more than the Level 2 Limit below its previous day's Settlement Price, trading shall cease for a period to be determined by the Exchange with notice provided to market participants for the time the market shall reopen. The next applicable price limit shall apply to such reopening.
- (e) No trade in any Russell Complex Futures Contract may occur at a price that is more than a Level 3 Limit for such contract.
- (f) If, on any Business Day, a Level Limit is in effect on or after 4:00 p.m. New York Time, such Level Limit will remain in effect until the close of the electronic trading session for such Business Day. When the electronic trading session opens for the following Business Day, the primary Futures Contracts of any of the various Russell Complex Futures Contracts shall not be traded at a price that is more than the Level 1 Limit below the previous day's Settlement Price until 9:30 a.m. New York Time on such Business Day.
- (g) The price limit restrictions set forth in paragraphs (c), (d) or (e) above, shall be maintained at an approximate correspondence to the trigger values set forth in NYSE Rule 80B. Whenever a trigger value set forth in NYSE Rule 80B is changed, the Exchange shall, on notice to its Members, substitute a new

price limit restriction in paragraphs (c), (d) or (e) above, which approximately corresponds to such changed trigger value.