

February 14, 2012

#### VIA E-MAIL

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

Re:

Rule 40.6(a) Certification. Notification of Rule Amendments to Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures and Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered Futures Listed for Trading on CME Globex and NYMEX Trading Floor and for Submission for Clearing on CME ClearPort

NYMEX Submission 12-049

Dear Mr. Stawick:

The New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or "Exchange") is notifying the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") that it is self-certifying amendments to Rule 220.8A ("Special Price Fluctuation Limits") of the Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures (commodity code NG) contract, in order to cite NG and Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered Futures contract (MNG) under the "Associated Products Appendix" in Rule 220.08A. The maximum price fluctuation limits for contract MNG, which was listed on the Exchange on February 13, 2012 (NYMEX Submission #12-044, dated February 9, 2012), are consistent with the prevailing price limits of the NG contract. Consequently, the Exchange is notifying the CFTC that it is amending Rule 220.08A in order to reflect the addition of NG and MNG into the "Associated Products Appendix". The amendment to Rule 220.08A shall be effective March 1, 2012.

Previously, by letter dated February 2, 2012 (NYMEX Submission #12-037R), the Exchange notified the Commission that, among other things, it was self-certifying amendments to Rule 220.08A ("Special Price Fluctuation Limits") in order to (1) reduce the trigger level for a circuit breaker for NG and its associated products from \$3.00 to \$1.50, and (2) implement maximum price fluctuation limits for Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Penultimate Financial futures (chapter 824, commodity code HP) contract that shall be consistent with the prevailing price limits for the NG contract. The effective date for these amendments is trade date March 5, 2012.

Consequently, in this submission, the Exchange is notifying the CFTC that it is self-certifying amendments to MNG Rule 1156102.D. ("Special Price Fluctuation Limits") in order to (1) reduce the trigger level for a circuit breaker from \$3.00 to \$1.50 and (2) include HP in MNG's "Associated Products Appendix", such that the terms of Rule 1156102.D. are consistent with the terms of Rule 220.08A. The effective date for these amendments is trade date March 5, 2012.

Lastly, the Exchange is notifying the CFTC that it is self-certifying an amendment to MNG Rule 1156108 ("Validity of Documents") to remove the reference to "inspection certificates". As the option to inspect the physical product is not available at the Henry Hub, any reference to "inspection certificates" in the contract chapter is not applicable. The effective date for this rule amendment shall be trade date March 1, 2012.

Mr. David Stawick Page 2 February 14, 2012

NYMEX business staff responsible for the rule amendments and the Exchange legal department collectively reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, Exchange staff identified that the rule amendments may have some bearing on the following Core Principles:

- Prevention of Market Disruption: Special price fluctuation limits rules reduce the likelihood of significant volatility resulting in unwarranted price deviation. In addition, trading in these contracts will be subject to Rulebook Chapters 4 and 7 which include prohibitions on manipulation, price distortion and disruptions of the delivery or cash-settlement process. As with all products listed for trading on one of CME Group's designated contract markets, activity in these products is subject to extensive monitoring and surveillance by CME Group's Market Regulation Department.
- Availability of General Information: The Exchange will publish information on the contracts' specification on its website, together with daily trading volume, open interest and price information.

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act ("Act") and CFTC Regulation 40.6 (a), the Exchange hereby certifies that the rule amendments comply with the Act, including regulations under the Act. There were no substantive opposing views to this proposal.

The Exchange certifies that this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <a href="http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html">http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</a>.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at (312) 930-8167.

Sincerely,

/s/Sean M. Downey Assoc Dir & Asst General Counsel

Appendix A - Rule Amendments

# Appendix A

(underline indicates addition; strikethrough indicates deletion)

# Chapter 220 Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures

### 220.08A SPECIAL PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITS

- (A) Initial Price Fluctuation Limits for All Contract Months. At the commencement of each trading day, there shall be price fluctuation limits in effect for each contract month of this futures contract of \$1.50 per MMBtu above or below the previous day's settlement price for such contract month.
- (B)(1) Triggering Event and Temporary Trading Halt Related to Trading on Globex®. If a market for any of the first three (3) contract months is bid or offered at the upper or lower price fluctuation limit, as applicable, on Globex it will be considered a Triggering Event which will halt trading for a five (5) minute period in all contract months of the NG futures contract, as well as all contract months in all products cited in the Associated Product Appendix of this rule. Trading in any option related to this contract or in an option contract related to any products cited in the Associated Product Appendix which may be available for trading on either Globex or on the Trading Floor shall additionally be subject to a coordinated trading halt.
- (2) Expansion of Limits Following Temporary Trading Halt.

Following the end of the 5-minute Temporary Trading Halt, the affected markets shall re-open simultaneously in all contract months of these futures contracts. When trading resumes, price fluctuation limits for each contract month shall be expanded an additional increment of the price fluctuation limits, above and below the previous day's settlement price for each contract month in the affected contracts on Globex and on the trading floor (as applicable).

- (3) Each instance in which a Triggering Event occurs, a Temporary Trading Halt will commence as provided by Sub-Sections (1)-(2) above and the price fluctuation limits for all contract months shall be expanded by an additional increment of the price fluctuation limits for NG as well as all products cited in the Associated Products Appendix in this rule.
- (4) End of Day Lifting of Price Fluctuation Limits.

On any Exchange business day, regardless of any prior action concerning price fluctuation limits during the trading session, commencing sixty (60) minutes before the close of the Regular Trading Hours (RTH) session, there shall be no price fluctuation limits on any contract month in NG and all products cited in the Associated Products Appendix of this rule. The Price Fluctuation Limits shall be reinstated after the close of RTH for trading on Globex and shall be in effect through to the conclusion of the current trading day's Globex trading session.

- (C) Price Fluctuation Limits on the Trading Floor (Floor Trading)
- (1) The price fluctuation limits cited in section (A) of this rule shall be applicable on the Trading Floor (Floor Trading). However, all markets on the trading floor shall be limited to trading at these price levels (locked limit) and shall not constitute a Triggering Event for purposes of a Temporary Trading Halt on Globex.
- (2) In all instances when a Triggering Event in NG occurs on Globex, Floor Trading in NG and any products cited in the Associated Products Appendix of this rule shall immediately halt. Additionally, trading in any option related to this contract or in an option contract related to any products cited in the Associated Product Appendix shall be subject to a coordinated trading halt.
- (3) Whenever Globex markets are expanded and re-opened pursuant to the provisions of Section (B) of this rule, effected markets on the Trading Floor shall re-open with the expanded limits in place.
- (D) Associated Products Appendix

NG Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures

MNG Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered Futures

QG	E-mini Natural Gas Futures
HP	Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Penultimate Financial Futures
NP	Henry Hub Natural Gas Penultimate Financial Futures
HH	Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Last Day Financial Futures
NN	Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Financial Futures

# Chapter 1156 Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered Futures

### 1156102. TRADING SPECIFICATIONS

#### 1156102.D. Special Price Fluctuation Limits

- 1. Initial Price Fluctuation Limits for All Contract Months. At the commencement of each trading day, there shall be price fluctuation limits in effect for each contract month of this futures contract of \$3.00\\$1.50 per MMBtu above or below the previous day's settlement price for such contract month.
- 2. (a) Triggering Event and Temporary Trading Halt Related to Trading on Globex<sup>®</sup>. If a market for any of the first three (3) contract months is bid or offered at the upper or lower price fluctuation limit, as applicable, on Globex it will be considered a Triggering Event which will halt trading for a five (5) minute period ("Temporary Trading Halt") in all contract months of the Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered futures contract, as well as all contract months in all products cited in the Associated Products Appendix of this rule. Trading in any option related to this contract or in an option contract related to any products cited in the Associated Products Appendix which may be available for trading on either Globex or on the trading floor shall additionally be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt.
  - (b) Expansion of Limits Following Temporary Trading Halt. Following the end of the 5-minute Temporary Trading Halt, the affected markets shall re-open simultaneously in all contract months of these futures contracts. When trading resumes, price fluctuation limits for each contract month shall be expanded an additional increment of the price fluctuation limits, above and below the previous day's settlement price for each contract month in the affected contracts on Globex and on the trading floor (as applicable).
  - (c) Each instance in which a Triggering Event occurs, a Temporary Trading Halt will commence as provided by subsections (a) and (b) of this rule above and the price fluctuation limits for all contract months shall be expanded by an additional increment of the price fluctuation limits for Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered futures as well as all products cited in the Associated Products Appendix in this rule.
  - (d) End of Day Lifting of Price Fluctuation Limits. On any Exchange business day, regardless of any prior action concerning price fluctuation limits during the trading session, commencing sixty (60) minutes before the close of the Regular Trading Hours (RTH) session, there shall be no price fluctuation limits on any contract month in Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered futures or in any products cited in the Associated Products Appendix of this rule. The Price Fluctuation Limits shall be reinstated after the close of RTH for trading on Globex and shall be in effect through to the conclusion of the current trading day's Globex trading session.
- 3. Price Fluctuation Limits on the Trading Floor (Floor Trading)
  - (a) The price fluctuation limits cited in subsection 1156102.D.1 of this rule shall be applicable on the trading floor. All markets on the trading floor shall be limited to trading at these price levels (locked limit); however, such trading shall not constitute a Triggering Event for purposes of a Temporary Trading Halt on Globex.
  - (b) In all instances when a Triggering Event in Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered futures occurs on Globex, floor trading in Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered futures and any products cited in the Associated Products Appendix of

this rule shall immediately halt. Additionally, trading in any option related to this contract or in an option contract related to any products cited in the Associated Products Appendix shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt.

(c) Whenever Globex markets are expanded and re-opened pursuant to the provisions of subsection 1156102.D.2 of this rule, affected markets on the trading floor shall re-open with the expanded limits in place.

# 4. Associated Products Appendix

MNG	Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Physically-Delivered Futures
NG	Henry Hub Natural Gas Futures
QG	E-mini Natural Gas Futures
HP	Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Penultimate Financial Futures
NP	Henry Hub Natural Gas Penultimate Financial Futures
HH	Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Last Day Financial Futures
NN	Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Financial Futures
	[remainder of rule unchanged]
	[·

# 1156108. VALIDITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Exchange makes no representation respecting the authenticity, validity, or accuracy of any inspection certificate, the Notice of Intention to Deliver, Notice of Intention to Accept, check or any document or instrument delivered pursuant to these rules.