

April 16, 2013

VIA E-MAIL

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

RE: NYMEX European Prop Incremental Growth Incentive Program NYMEX Submission No. 13-139

Dear Ms. Jurgens:

New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or the "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") that it plans to implement an incentive program in support of NYMEX Energy Options Products traded on the NYMEX trading floor, the Globex Platform, or that are submitted for clearing to the CME Clearing House ("Program"). The proposed Program will become effective on May 1, 2013.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program.

NYMEX business staff responsible for the Program and the NYMEX legal department collectively reviewed the designated contract market core principles as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, NYMEX staff identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted; Prevention of Market Disruption, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, Compliance with Rules and Recordkeeping.

The Program will not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA. The Exchange's market regulation staff will continue to monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, NYMEX has implemented systems to track Program participants' volume to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. The products included in this Program are listed for trading in the open and competitive market. The incentives available under the Program may be earned by trading the Program's products on any of NYMEX's execution and/or clearing venues, including the pit and our central limit order book. Therefore, the incentives under this Program protect any price discovery taking place in the centralized market. Participants will be selected by NYMEX based on the criteria set forth in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the NYMEX rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. All participants must execute a contractual agreement with NYMEX in which each participant will expressly agree to comply with and be subject to, applicable regulations and NYMEX rules. The Program will be subject to the Exchange's record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

The Exchange certifies that the Program complies with the CEA and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program.

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

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please contact Robert Lev at 312-930-3019 or via e-mail at <u>robert.lev@cmegroup.com</u>, or contact me at 212-299-2200. Please reference our NYMEX Submission No. 13-139 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen Managing Director, Chief Regulatory Counsel

EXHIBIT 1

NYMEX European Prop Incremental Growth Incentive Program

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Program is to incentivize participants to increase volume contribution in NYMEX energy futures and options products across NYMEX's trading and clearing venues. Higher levels of volume and liquidity in the products listed below benefits all participants in the marketplace.

Product Scope

Designated NYMEX energy futures and options contracts that are traded on the Globex Platform, the NYMEX trading floor or cleared through the CME Clearing House ("Products").

Eligible Participants

NYMEX may designate up to five (5) participants in the Program. Active participants in the International Incentive Program that are not registered in the International Cross-Asset Volume Incentive Program may apply for the Program. When selecting participants for the Program, NYMEX will take into account the potential participant's ability to grow participation in NYMEX energy markets. Notwithstanding the forgoing, NYMEX may modify the aforementioned factors in its sole discretion as it deems necessary.

Program Term

Start date is May 1, 2013. End date is April 30, 2014.

<u>Hours</u>

N/A

Incentives

If a participant meets certain average monthly volume levels in the Products as determined by the Exchange, the respective participant may qualify to receive predetermined incentives.

Monitoring and Termination of Status

The Exchange shall monitor participants' activity in the Products and retains the right to revoke Program participant status if it concludes from review that a Program participant no longer meets the eligibility requirements of the Program.