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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIAT

July 19, 2011

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 Certification. New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. Submission# 11-127: Notification Regarding the Listing of Australian Coking Coal (Platts) Swap Futures Contract for Trading on the NYMEX Trading Floor and for Clearing through CME ClearPort®

Dear Mr. Stawick:

The New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or the "Exchange") is notifying the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") that it is self-certifying the listing of Australian Coking Coal (Platts) Swap futures contract for trading on the NYMEX trading floor and for clearing through CME ClearPort. This new contract will be listed on the Exchange effective Sunday, July 24, 2011 for trade date Monday, July 25, 2011.

The Exchange will allow the exchange for related position (EFRP) transactions to be submitted through CME ClearPort. EFRP transactions will be governed by the provisions of Exchange Rule 538.

The product specifications are as follows:

Contract Name	Australian Coking Coal (Platts) Swap Futures
Code	ACL
Contract Unit	1,000 metric tons
Price Quotation	U.S. dollars and cents per metric ton
Minimum Price Tick	\$0.01
Settlement Tick	\$0.01
First Listed Month	September 2011
Listing Period	Current year plus the next full year up to 24 calendar months
Termination of Trading	Trading shall terminate on the last business day of the contract month. Business days are based on the Singapore Public Holiday calendar.
Settlement Index	Platts
Rule Chapter	971

## **Trading Hours**

- Open Outcry: Monday Friday 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (8:00 a.m.to 1:30 p.m. Chicago Time/CT)
- CME ClearPort: Sunday Friday 6:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. (5:00 p.m. 4:15 p.m. CT) with a 45-minute break each day beginning at 5:15 p.m. (4:15 p.m. CT)

## Fees

Exchange Fees					
	Member Day	Member	Cross Division	Non-Member	IIP
Pit	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$6.00	\$7.00	
Globex	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
ClearPort		\$5.00		\$7.00	

Processing Fees			
	Member	Non-Member	
Cash Settlement	\$1.00	\$1.00	
Futures from E/A	n/a	n/a	
	House Acct	Customer Acct	
Options E/A Notice	n/a	n/a	
Delivery Notice	n/a	n/a	

Additional Fees and Surcharges	
EFS Surcharge	n/a
Block Surcharge	n/a
Facilitation Desk Fee \$1.00	

	ClearPort Volume Discou	ınt Program - Exchang	e Fees
	Volume Threshold	Discounted Member Rate	Discounted Non-Member Rate
ClearPort	100	\$4.00	\$6.00

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act ("Act") and CFTC Rules 40.2 and 40.6, the Exchange hereby certifies that the attached contract complies with the Act, including regulations under the Act. There were no substantive opposing views to this proposal. This submission will be made effective on trade date July 25, 2011.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact Bob Biolsi at (212) 299-2610, <a href="mailto:bob.biolsi@cmegroup.com">bob.biolsi@cmegroup.com</a> or the undersigned at (212) 299-2207, (347) 463-5347 or <a href="mailto:felix.khalatnikov@cmegroup.com">felix.khalatnikov@cmegroup.com</a>.

Sincerely,

/s/Felix Khalatnikov Dir & Assoc General Counsel

Attachments: Contract terms and conditions

Cash Market Overview and Analysis of Deliverable Supply

# Chapter 971 Australian Coking Coal (Platts) Swap Futures

## 971100. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

The provisions of these rules shall apply to all futures contracts bought or sold on the Exchange for cash settlement based on the Floating Price. The procedures for trading, clearing and cash settlement of this contract, and any other matters not specifically covered herein shall be governed by the general rules of the Exchange.

#### 971101. CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS

The Floating Price for each contract month is equal to the average price calculated for all available price assessments published for Hard Coking Coal (HCC 64 Mid Vol) FOB Australia for that given calendar month by Coal Trader International (Platts).

## 971102. TRADING SPECIFICATIONS

The number of months open for trading at a given time shall be determined by the Exchange.

## 971102.A. Trading Schedule

The hours of trading for this contract shall be determined by the Exchange.

#### 971102.B. Trading Unit

The contract quantity shall be one thousand (1,000) metric tons. Each contract shall be valued as the contract quantity multiplied by the settlement price

#### 971102.C. Price Increments

Prices shall be quoted in U.S. dollars and cents per metric ton. The minimum price fluctuation shall be \$0.01 per metric ton.

## 971102.D. Position Limits and Position Accountability

In accordance with Rule 559, no person shall own or control positions in excess of 1,250 contracts net long or net short in the spot month.

In accordance with Rule 560:

- the all-months accountability level shall be 5,000 contracts net long or net short in all months combined;
- 2. the any-one month accountability level shall be 5,000 contracts net long or net short in any single contract month excluding the spot month.

Refer to Rule 559 for requirements concerning the aggregation of positions and allowable exemptions from the specified position limits.

## 971102.E. Termination of Trading

Trading shall terminate on the last business day of the contract month. Business days are based on the Singapore Public Holiday calendar.

## 971103. FINAL SETTLEMENT

Final settlement under the contract shall be by cash settlement. Final settlement, following termination of trading for a contract month, will be based on the Floating Price. The final settlement price will be the Floating Price calculated for each contract month.

## 971104. DISCLAIMER

NEITHER NEW YORK MERCANTILE EXCHANGE, INC. ("NYMEX") ITS AFFILIATES NOR PLATTS, A DIVISION OF THE MCGRAW-HILL COMPANIES, INC. ("PLATTS") GUARANTEES THE ACCURACY NOR COMPLETENESS OF THE COAL TRADER INTERNATIONAL (PLATTS) OR ANY OF THE DATA INCLUDED THEREIN.

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CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES (INCLUDING LOST PROFITS), EVEN IF NOTIFIED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

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## **CASH MARKET OVERVIEW**

By almost any measure, steel is one of the largest commodity markets and one of the most widely used metals in the world. Steel is an essential material for modern life. The manufacture of steels delivers the goods and services that our societies need – healthcare, telecommunications, improved agricultural practices, better transport networks, clean water and access to reliable and affordable energy.

Global steel production is dependent on coking coal. Almost 70% of the steel produced today uses coal. Metallurgical coal – or coking coal – is a vital ingredient in the steel making process. World crude steel production was 1.2 billion metric tons in 2009<sup>1</sup>. In that same year, about 761 million metric tons of coking coal was used in the production of steel<sup>2</sup>. Steel is an alloy based primarily on iron. As iron occurs only as iron oxides in the earth's crust, the ores must be converted, or 'reduced', using carbon. The primary source of this carbon is coking coal.

Table 1, below, provides a list of the top ten steel producing countries during 2009, as provided by the World Steel Association.

Table 1. Top Ten Steel Producing Countries in 2009 (millions of metric tons)

Country	2009
China	567.8
EU	139.1
Japan	87.5
Russia	59.9
United States	58.1
India	56.6
South Korea	48.6
Germany	32.7
Ukraine	29.8
Brazil	26.5
Turkey	25.3
World	1,219.7

Source: World Steel Association

The world production of coking coal in 2010 is estimated to be 912 million metric tons, more than half of which is produced in Asia according to CRU Strategies as illustrated in Table 2 below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> World Steel Association – Steel Statistical Yearbook 2010

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.worldcoal.org/coal/uses-of-coal/coal-steel/

Table 2. Coking Coal Production (millions of metric tons)

	2007	2008	2009	2010p
China	512.1	500.2	489.8	523.6
Australia	141.7	138.9	138.4	149.4
USA	51.7	58.2	46.7	68.5
Russia	55.3	52.8	49.0	56.1
Canada	26.9	27.5	24.0	28.7
Ukraine	25.1	20.4	21.6	20.8
India	11.1	13.4	13.6	13.5
Poland	14.0	12.8	8.9	11.2
Mongolia	3.1	3.4	4.0	10.5
Czech Republic	7.7	7.1	5.9	5.3
North America	80.1	87.3	72.0	98.8
South America	2.9	2.8	2.7	3.6
Europe	25.5	23.6	18.5	20.1
CIS	85.4	77.2	74.1	80.3
Asia	528.6	520.4	510.2	551.5
Middle East	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.8
Africa	4.6	4.8	4.3	4.1
Oceania	144.0	141.2	140.9	151.7
World total	871.8	858.1	823.8	912.0

Source: CRU Strategies

According to the World Coal Association, Australia is the world's leading exporter of coal accounting for an estimated 259 million metric tons in 20093. Of the 259 million metric tons of coal exports, 125 million metric tons were coking coal exports, representing nearly 50% of global coal exports. In 2009, 145 million metric tons of coking coal were imported of which imports into Japan and China represented approximately 60% of total coking coal imports worldwide as illustrated in Tables 3 and 4.

Table 3. Top Coal Exporters (2009e) (millions of metric tons)

Country	Total	Coking
Australia	259	125
Indonesia	230	30
Russia	116,	11
Colombia	69	-
South Africa	67	1
USA	53	33
Canada	28	21
Total	822	221

Source: World Coal Association4

http://www.worldcoal.org/resources/coal-statistics/
 The World Coal Association is a global industry association comprising the major international coal producers and stakeholders (http://www.worldcoal.org/resources/coal-statistics/).

Table 4. Top Coal Importers (2009e) (millions of metric tons)

Country	Total	Coking
Japan	165Mt	52Mt
PR China	137Mt	35Mt
South Korea	103Mt	21Mt
India	67Mt	23Mt
Chinese Tapei	60Mt	3Mt
Germany	38Mt	6Mt
UK	38Mt	5Mt
Total	1644Mt	145Mt

Source: World Coal Association<sup>5</sup>

## **Pricing Mechanism**

The majority of coking coal has traditionally been sold on a long-term basis with contracts ranging from one year in duration to multi-year arrangements. But, the surge in coking coal prices seen in late 2007 and 2008, principally associated with the rise of China and India as significant consumers, and the subsequent contraction experienced during the global financial crisis, created significant economic difficulties for buyers and sellers committed to long-term fixed-price contracts.

The negative experiences associated with long-term pricing arrangements have led participants to move towards shorter term and index-linked contracts that correspond more closely with market conditions at the time of delivery. The impact of the sharp rises and falls in coal prices in recent years has also led to a sharp upturn in interest in risk management from participants in the Asian coking coal markets. In early 2010, international energy pricing agency Platts began to establish international benchmarks for coking coal mined in Australia.

## **Description of Data Source**

The World Coal Association, WCA, was founded by coal producers in September 1985. Originally called The International Coal Development Institute, the name was changed to the World Coal Institute in 1988 and World Coal Association in 2010. The Association was established to provide a forum for the exchange of information and the discussion of challenges relating to the coal industry. The World Coal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The World Coal Association is a global industry association comprising the major international coal producers and stakeholders (<a href="http://www.worldcoal.org/resources/coal-statistics/">http://www.worldcoal.org/resources/coal-statistics/</a>).

Association and its member companies engage constructively and openly with governments, the scientific community, multilateral organizations, non-governmental organizations, media, coal producers and users, and others on global issues, such as CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction and sustainable development, and on local issues including environmental and socio-economic benefits and the effects from coal mining and coal use.

CRU Strategies, the metals, mining and power consultants, is a core part of the CRU portfolio of services. CRU is an independent, British company, specializing in supporting the global metals and mining industries. CRU Strategies consultants provide independent management and strategic consultancy, delivering unrivalled knowledge and analysis to decision makers in metals, mining, minerals, and commodity markets. Through its consultancy, CRU Strategies delivers objectivity of research and analysis, integrity, independence, and competitive advantage to our clients. CRU Strategies' portfolio of research and experience encompasses over 80 different countries and all the major metals and related commodities, including alumina, aluminum, cobalt, coking coal, copper, ferroalloys, germanium, gold, lead, nickel, platinum, power, rare earths, silver, stainless steel, steel, tin, titanium, tungsten, vanadium and zinc.

## **Description of Settlement Index Source**

Platts<sup>6</sup>, a division of the McGraw-Hill Companies, is a leading global provider of energy and metals information. Platts assessments are based on actual transactions, and/or on specific and firm bids and offers in the market. Platts metallurgical coal assessments reflect the transactable value prevailing at 18:30:00 Singapore time. The assessment methodology reflects values on a market-on-close basis. Trading activity, including bid/offers and transactions, is covered during the typical operating day with data cut off for inclusion in the assessment precisely at 18:30:00 Singapore time. Platts publishes the transactable value for Hard Coking Coal (HCC 64 Mid Vol), indicating the price at which a cargo could be traded on FOB Australia basis at the close of the assessment period on the day of publishing. These assessed values are based on confirmed spot transactions, firm bids / offers, or in the absence of liquidity, where spot transactions would have been concluded for the benchmark grade. NYMEX is a party to license agreements with Platts to utilize their pricing data.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> http://www.platts.com/IM.Platts.Content/MethodologyReferences/MethodologySpecs/metcoalmethod.pdf

## **Market Participants**

There are a wide range of market participants in the coking coal market. Coking coal is originally produced in its rawest state by mining companies and is ultimately consumed by steel producers, but it is also bought and sold by international traders, by blenders and by coke producers. A partial listing of companies involved in coking coal trade is as follows:

Producers BHP Billiton Xstrata Vale Anglo American Rio Tinto Wesfarmers Teck Coal (Canada)	Traders/End Users Cargill Noble Glencore Mercuria Global Coke (India) MTPL (India) Posco (South Korea) Arcelor Mittal (Luxembourg) CC Carbon Stemcor Itochu (Japan) Idemitsu (Japan) Mitsubishi (Japan) Mitsui (Japan) Hyundai (Korea)
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Brokers Financial
London Dry Bulk Credit Suisse
FIS Deutsche Bank
Barclays

## **ANALYSIS OF DELIVERABLE SUPPLY**

Coking coal represents 25% of all hard coal trade. The largest market for coal is Asia and the top ranking exporter of coking coal is Australia. According to the World Coal Association (Table 4 above), in 2009, Japan and China were ranked as the top two importing countries of coking coal. As illustrated in Table 3 above, in 2009, Australia accounted for exporting 125 million metric tons of coking coal representing nearly 50% of global coal exports. This exporting level translates into 10.4 million metric tons per month or 10,416 contracts (based on a 1,000 metric ton contract). The Exchange proposes to set the expiration month position limits at 1,250 contracts. This is a conservative proposal based solely on Australian exports, which are the predominate exports to the steel manufacturing hubs in Asia. Based on this figure, the proposed spot month position limit for the Australian Coking Coal (Platts) Swap Futures contract represents approximately 12% of deliverable supply from Australia, and only about 7% of deliverable supply from world exports.