

August 30, 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 Option Rule Amendments for Options Associated with Henry Hub Natural Gas, Light Sweet Crude Oil, RBOB Gasoline and New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil Futures NYMEX Submission 12-270

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 option price rules for options associated with each of the physically delivered Henry Hub Natural Gas, Light Sweet Crude Oil, RBOB Gasoline and New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil futures contracts (referred to herein as the “associated options”). The amendments are intended to explicitly state in those rules that these associated options are subject to a coordinated temporary trading halt if a triggering event causes the Henry Hub Natural Gas (NG) futures, Light Sweet Crude Oil (CL) futures, RBOB Gasoline (RB) futures or New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil (HO) futures markets to temporarily halt.

In addition, the Exchange is notifying the Commission that it is removing the “Absence of Price Fluctuation Limitations” rules contained in certain associated options chapters in order to eliminate any possible ambiguity or confusion with regard to temporary trading halts of associated options in the event of a temporary trading halt in the futures contracts. The associated options will continue to not be subject to *option* price fluctuation limitations.

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 (the “Act” or “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 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. These amendments shall become effective on September 17, 2012.

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>.

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

Sincerely,

/s/Sean M. Downey
Director & Assistant General Counsel

Attachment: Appendix A – Rule Amendments

(underline indicates addition; strikethrough indicates deletion)

NATURAL GAS OPTIONS

Chapter 370

Henry Hub Natural Gas Option

370.06 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN HENRY HUB NATURAL GAS OPTIONS~~**

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per million British thermal units (MMBtu) and prices shall be in multiples of \$.001 per MMBtu. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$.0001 per MMBtu. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 220) in Henry Hub Natural Gas futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 220).

~~370.07 **ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR HENRY HUB NATURAL GAS OPTIONS**~~

~~Trading in Henry Hub Natural Gas Options shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

Chapter 560

Henry Hub Natural Gas Look-Alike Option

560.04 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS**

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and hundredths of cents per MMBtu. A cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.0001 per MMBtu or \$1.00, however, if it results in the liquidation of positions of both parties to the trade. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 220) in Henry Hub Natural Gas futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 220).

Chapter 375

Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Financial Option

375.06. **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN HENRY HUB NATURAL GAS LAST DAY FINANCIAL OPTION~~**

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and hundredths of cents per MMBtu. The minimum price fluctuation will be \$.0001. However, a cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.0001 per MMBtu or \$1. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 220) in Henry Hub Natural Gas futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 220).

~~375.07. **ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR HENRY HUB NATURAL GAS LAST DAY FINANCIAL OPTION**~~

~~Trading in Henry Hub Natural Gas Last Day Financial Option shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

Chapter 832

Daily Natural Gas Option

832.06. **STRIKE PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~FOR DAILY NATURAL GAS OPTIONS CONTRACT~~**

Trading shall be conducted for options with strike prices in increments of \$.001 per MMBtu. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 220) in Henry Hub Natural Gas futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 220).

Chapter 399

Henry Hub Natural Gas Financial Calendar Spread Option

399.06. **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS**

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.001 (0.1 cent) per MMBtu. However, a cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.0001 per MMBtu, or \$1.00 a contract. [When a Triggering Event \(as defined in Chapter 220\) in Henry Hub Natural Gas futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt \(as defined in Chapter 220\).](#)

~~399.07. ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS~~

~~Trading in the Option contract shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

Chapter 391

Henry Hub Natural Gas Calendar Spread Option

391.06 ~~PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS IN HENRY HUB NATURAL GAS CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per million British thermal units (MMBtu) and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.001 per MMBtu. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.0001 per MMBtu, or \$1.00 a contract. [When a Triggering Event \(as defined in Chapter 220\) in Henry Hub Natural Gas futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt \(as defined in Chapter 220\).](#)

~~391.07. ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR HENRY HUB NATURAL GAS CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION~~

~~Trading in Henry Hub Natural Gas Calendar Spread Option shall not be the subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

CRUDE OIL OPTIONS

Chapter 310

Crude Oil Option Contract

310.06 ~~PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS IN CRUDE OIL OPTION CONTRACTS~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel and prices shall be in multiples of one (1) cent per barrel. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.001 per barrel, or \$1.00. [When a Triggering Event \(as defined in Chapter 200\) in Light Sweet Crude Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt \(as defined in Chapter 200\).](#)

~~310.07. ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR CRUDE OIL OPTION CONTRACT~~

~~Trading in crude oil option contracts shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

Chapter 550

WTI Look-Alike Option

550.04 ~~PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS IN WTI LOOK-ALIKE OPTION CONTRACTS~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel. The minimum price fluctuation shall be \$0.01 per barrel. A cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.001 per Barrel or \$1.00. [When a Triggering Event \(as defined in Chapter 200\) in Light Sweet Crude Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt \(as defined in Chapter 200\).](#)

Chapter 341

WTI Average Price Option

341.03 ~~PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS IN WTI AVERAGE PRICE OPTION CONTRACTS~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel. The minimum price fluctuation shall be \$0.01 per barrel. A cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.001 per barrel or \$1.00. [When a Triggering Event \(as defined in Chapter 200\) in Light Sweet Crude Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt \(as defined in Chapter 200\).](#)

**Chapter 833
Daily Crude Oil Option**

833.06. STRIKE PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~FOR DAILY CRUDE OIL OPTIONS CONTRACT~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per Barrel. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 200) in Light Sweet Crude Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 200).

**Chapter 397
Crude Oil Financial Calendar Spread**

397.06. PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.01 (1 cent) per barrel. However, a cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.001 per barrel, or \$1.00 per contract. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 200) in Light Sweet Crude Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 200).

~~397.07. ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS~~

~~Trading in the Option contract shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

**Chapter 390
WTI Calendar Spread Option**

390.06 PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN WTI CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.01 (1 cent) per barrel. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.001 per barrel, or \$1.00 a contract. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 200) in Light Sweet Crude Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 200).

~~390.07 ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR WTI CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION~~

~~Trading in WTI Calendar Spread Option contracts shall not be the subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

RBOB GASOLINE OPTIONS

**Chapter 335
RBOB Gasoline Option**

335.06 PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN RBOB GASOLINE OPTION~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per gallon and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.0001 (.01 cent) per gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.0000238 per gallon, or \$1.00. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 191) in RBOB Gasoline futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 191).

~~335.07 ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR RBOB GASOLINE OPTION~~

~~Trading in RBOB Gasoline Options shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

**Chapter 385
RBOB Look-Alike European Option**

385.04 PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN RBOB LOOK-ALIKE EUROPEAN OPTION~~

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and hundredths of cents per Gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.0000238 per Gallon or \$1.00. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 191) in RBOB Gasoline futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 191).

Chapter 386
RBOB Gasoline Average Price Option

386.03 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN RBOB GASOLINE AVERAGE PRICE OPTION~~**

Prices shall be quoted in hundredths of cents per gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.0000238 per gallon or \$1.00. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 191) in RBOB Gasoline futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 191).

Chapter 387
RBOB Gasoline Crack Spread Option

387.06 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN RBOB GASOLINE CRACK SPREAD OPTION~~**

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.01 (1 cent) per barrel; provided, however, that those out-of-the-money call (put) options which either trade at or are bid (offered) at a price of 5 cents per barrel (\$.05 per barrel) or less, on a particular business day may be quoted in multiples of one-half cent per barrel (\$0.005 per barrel) on that business day. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.001 per barrel, or \$1.00 per contract. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 191) in RBOB Gasoline futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 191).

~~**387.07** **ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR RBOB GASOLINE CRACK SPREAD OPTION**~~

~~Trading in RBOB Gasoline Crack Spread Options shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

Chapter 388
RBOB Gasoline Calendar Spread Option

388.06 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN RBOB GASOLINE CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION~~**

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per gallon and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.0001 per gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.0000238 per gallon, or \$1.00 a contract. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 191) in RBOB Gasoline futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 191).

~~**388.07** **ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR RBOB GASOLINE CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION**~~

~~Trading in RBOB Gasoline Calendar Spread Options shall not be the subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

HEATING OIL OPTIONS

Chapter 320
Heating Oil Option

320.06 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN HEATING OIL OPTION CONTRACTS~~**

Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per gallon and prices shall be in multiples of \$.0001 (.01 cent) per gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.0000238 per gallon, or \$1.00. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 150) in New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 150).

~~**320.07** **ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR HEATING OIL OPTION CONTRACTS**~~

~~Trading in heating oil option contracts shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

Chapter 551
Heating Oil Look-Alike Option

551.04 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN HEATING OIL LOOK-ALIKE OPTION CONTRACTS~~**
Prices shall be quoted in dollars and hundredths of cents per Gallon. The minimum price fluctuation shall be \$.0001 per gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.0000238 per Gallon or \$1.00. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 150) in New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 150).

Chapter 321
Heating Oil Average Price Option

321.03 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN HEATING OIL AVERAGE PRICE OPTION CONTRACTS~~**
Prices shall be quoted in hundredths of cents per gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at the price of \$.0000238 per gallon or \$1.00. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 150) in New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 150).

Chapter 350
Heating Oil Crack Spread Option

350.06 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN HEATING OIL CRACK SPREAD OPTIONS~~**
Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per barrel and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.01 (1 cent) per barrel; provided, however, that those out-of-the-month call (put) options which either trade at or are bid (offered) at a price of 5 cents per barrel (\$.05 per barrel) or less, on a particular business day may be quoted in multiples of one-half cent per barrel (\$0.005 per barrel) on that business day. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.001 per barrel, or \$1.00 per contract. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 150) in New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 150).

~~350.07 **ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR HEATING OIL CRACK SPREAD OPTION**
Trading in Heating Oil Crack Spread Options shall not be subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~

Chapter 392
Heating Oil Calendar Spread Option

392.06 **PRICES AND FLUCTUATIONS ~~IN HEATING OIL CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION~~**
Prices shall be quoted in dollars and cents per gallon and prices shall be in multiples of \$0.001 per gallon. A cabinet trade may occur at a price of \$0.0000238 per gallon, or \$1.00 a contract. When a Triggering Event (as defined in Chapter 150) in New York Harbor ULSD Heating Oil futures occurs, trading in this option shall be subject to a coordinated Temporary Trading Halt (as defined in Chapter 150).

~~392.07 **ABSENCE OF PRICE FLUCTUATION LIMITATIONS FOR HEATING OIL CALENDAR SPREAD OPTION**
Trading in Heating Oil Calendar Spread Option shall not be the subject to price fluctuation limitations.~~