

November 15, 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: Extension of the NYMEX Natural Gas and Power Incentive Program for Hedge Funds NYMEX Submission No. 13-416

Dear Ms. Jurgens:

New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or the "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of plans to extend its incentive program in support of all Natural Gas, Natural Gas Liquids & Petrochemicals (NGLs) and Power/Electricity ("Power") products ("Program") through December 31, 2014. The Program was set to expire on December 31, 2013 (see Submission No. 13-308). The extension will become effective on January 2, 2014. All other program terms remain unchanged.

NYMEX business staff responsible for the Program and the NYMEX legal department collectively reviewed the designated contract market ("DCM") 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 extension of 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 monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, the Exchange 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 will apply to transactions by participants via 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. 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 proposed Program will be subject to the Exchange's record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

NYMEX 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 Tim Elliott at 312-466-7478 or via e-mail at <u>tim.elliott@cmegroup.com</u>, or contact me at 212-299-2200. Please reference our NYMEX Submission No. 13-416 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher K. Bowen Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel