

November 18, 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: Modifications to the NYMEX Legacy GreenX Volume and Liquidity Provider Program

NYMEX Submission No. 13-449

Dear Ms. Jurgens:

New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("NYMEX" or the "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") of modifications to the NYMEX Legacy GreenX Volume and Liquidity Provider Program ("Program"). The proposed modifications will become effective on January 2, 2014.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program. The modifications appear below, with additions <u>underscored</u> and deletions <del>overstruck</del>.

NYMEX business staff responsible for the Program and the NYMEX legal department collectively reviewed the designated contract market core principles (the "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 and proposed modifications will not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA. All thresholds requirements and participants will be disclosed to the Exchange's Market Regulation Department in order to monitor for any manipulative trading and/or 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 equally to transactions by participants via all available NYMEX's execution and/or clearing venues. Therefore, the incentives under this Program protect any price discovery taking place in the centralized market. Participants in the Program will be selected by NYMEX staff using criteria as further stated 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 and proposed modifications will be subject to the Exchange's record retention policies, which comply fully with the CEA.

NYMEX certifies that the Program and proposed modifications comply 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 <a href="http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html">http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</a>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please contact Tim Elliott at 312-466-7478 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:tim.elliott@cmegroup.com">tim.elliott@cmegroup.com</a>, or contact me at 212-299-2200. Please reference our NYMEX Submission No. 13-449 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure: Exhibit 1

# **EXHIBIT 1**

# **Legacy GreenX Volume and Liquidity Provider Program**

### **Program Purpose**

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize trading in the products listed below across all available NYMEX venues. Increasing overall volume levels in the products listed below will enhance market liquidity. A more liquid contract benefits all participants in the market.

#### Product Scope

NYMEX emissions contracts that are traded on the Globex Platform or cleared via CME ClearPort ("Product(s)").

## **Eligible Participants**

NYMEX may designate up to eight (8) six (6) participants in the Program. Participants may be NYMEX members or non-members. In order to be eligible for the Program, potential participants must be sufficiently and consistently active in the trading of any NYMEX emissions products. Notwithstanding the foregoing, NYMEX, in its sole discretion, may add or subtract from the aforementioned criteria as it deems necessary.

#### **Program Term**

Start date is such date on which the Products are transitioned from GreenX to NYMEX January 1, 2014. End date is December 31, 2013 December 31, 2014.

#### Hours

N/A

#### **Obligations**

Disclosure Requirements. Participants in the Program are required to provide NYMEX with information in an electronic format acceptable to NYMEX detailing participants' trading activity.

#### **Incentives**

Upon completing all obligations as determined by NYMEX, participants will be entitled to the following incentive:

<u>Fee Discounts</u>: For each <u>calendar quarter calendar month</u> of participation in the Program ("Measurement Period"), participants may receive predetermined fee discounts based on their combined average daily volume in the Products traded on Globex or cleared through CME ClearPort.

## **Monitoring and Termination of Status**

The Exchange shall monitor trading activity and participants' performance and shall retain the right to revoke Program participant status if it concludes from review that a Program participant has failed to meet its obligations or no longer meets the eligibility requirements of the Program. If a Program participant fails to meet at least the first volume threshold in either the first or second quarter the first six (6) months, NYMEX may terminate the participant's participation in the Program. NYMEX may also terminate a participant from the Program for cause in certain circumstances, such as a violation of NYMEX rules.