



OFFICE OF

Christopher Bowen Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel Legal Department

December 12, 2011

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. David Stawick Office of the Secretariat **Commodity Futures Trading Commission** Three Lafavette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20581

> RE: **CBOT Agricultural Back Month Incentive Program**

CBOT Submission No. 11-493

Dear Mr. Stawick:

The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc ("CBOT" or the "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") that it plans to implement an incentive program in support of certain CBOT Agricultural futures products traded on the CME Globex® platform ("Program"). The proposed Program will become effective on December 27, 2011.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of the proposed Program.

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

The proposed Program's incentive structure does not incentivize manipulative trading or market abuse and does 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 nevertheless continue to monitor all market participants that trade under the Program to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. The incentives in the proposed Program do not impact the Exchange's order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by the Exchange's staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the Exchange's rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. The proposed Program is subject to these rules.

CBOT certifies that the Program complies with the Commodity Exchange Act 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 robert.lev@cmegroup.com, or contact me at 212-299-2200. Please reference our CBOT Submission No. 11-493 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen
Managing Director, Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachments

EXHIBIT 1 CBOT AGRICULTURAL BACK MONTH INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Program Purpose

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize Program participants to trade certain agricultural futures products on the CME Globex® Platform and via open outcry. The resulting increase in liquidity benefits all participant segments in the market.

Product Scope

All back month (4+) CBOT Agricultural futures contracts that are traded on the CME Globex® platform and via open outcry ("Products").

Eligible Participants

There is no limit to the amount of participants that may participate in the Program. All CBOT Equity members and Lessees are eligible to participate.

Program Term

Start date is December 27, 2011. End date is June 30, 2012.

Hours

The incentives will apply to all trades made in the Product regardless of the execution time.

Program Incentives:

Each participant shall be eligible for the following incentives for trading in the Products:

<u>Fee Discounts:</u> Participants will be eligible to receive fee discounts for the Products that are traded on Globex® and via open outcry so that the all-in fees charged (clearing fees combined with Globex® execution fees when applicable) per side will equal the corresponding fees as set forth in the following table:

	GLOBEX®			Open Outcry		
Contract months	All-in fee for Equity Members	All-in fee for Lessees	Cumulative Discount	All-in fee for Equity Members	All-in fee for Lessees	Cumulative Discount
1,2,3	20¢	35¢	0	15¢	30¢	0
4,5,6	16¢	31¢	4¢	11¢	26¢	4¢
7 and beyond	12¢	27¢	8¢	7¢	22¢	8¢

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 no longer meets the eligibility requirements or fails to meet the obligations of the Program.