SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-71325; File No. SR-CME-2014-01)

January 16, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Regarding Modifications to CME Rule 8G802.B.2

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on January 8, 2014, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared primarily by CME. CME filed the proposal pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act,³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(4)(ii)⁴ thereunder so that the proposal was effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

CME is filing a proposed rule change that is limited to its business as a derivatives clearing organization. More specifically, the proposed rule change would make amendments to CME Rule 8G802.B.2 ("IRS Product Limited Recourse") to clarify that a CME Bankruptcy Event is also a Termination Event for IRS.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(4)(ii).

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, CME included statements concerning the purpose and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. CME has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for,</u> <u>the Proposed Rule Change</u>

CME is registered as a derivatives clearing organization with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and currently offers clearing services for many different futures and swaps products. The purpose of this proposed rule change is to make amendments to CME IRS rules that will clarify and harmonize CME rules across its IRS and CDS offerings. This filing does not involve any proposed changes to CME CDS rules. Although these changes will be effective on filing, CME plans to operationalize the proposed changes on January 16, 2014.

Currently, CME's Chapter 8H rules, providing for limited recourse for CDS, provide that a CME Bankruptcy Event (as defined in the Rules) is also a CDS Termination Event (as defined in CME Rule 8H802.B.2). CME's Chapter 8G rules, providing for limited recourse for IRS, inadvertently do not similarly include a CME Bankruptcy Event as an IRS Termination Event (as defined in CME Rule 8H802.B.2). The intent under both rule chapters is for the limited recourse provisions to work similarly in the event of a CME Bankruptcy Event. In order to harmonize the provisions, CME is proposing a clarifying amendment to CME Rule 8G802.B.2.

The changes that are described in this filing are limited to CME's business as a derivatives clearing organization clearing products under the exclusive jurisdiction of the

Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") and do not materially impact CME's security-based swap clearing business in any way. CME notes that it has already submitted the proposed rule change that is the subject of this filing to its primary regulator, the CFTC, in CME Submission 13-590.

CME believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act including Section 17A of the Exchange Act.⁵ The proposed rule change clarifies that a CME Bankruptcy Event is also a Termination Event for purposes of CME's IRS clearing offering. The purpose of the proposed changes is to clarify the limited recourse nature of CME's clearing offering and to harmonize CME's IRS rules with its CDS rules; these purposes are designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and, to the extent applicable, derivatives agreements, contracts, and transactions, to assure the safeguarding of securities and funds which are in the custody or control of the clearing agency or for which it is responsible, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Exchange Act.⁶

Furthermore, the proposed changes are limited in their effect to swaps products offered under CME's authority to act as a derivatives clearing organization. These products are under the exclusive jurisdiction of the CFTC. As such, the proposed CME changes are limited to CME's activities as a derivatives clearing organization clearing swaps that are not security-based swaps or mixed swaps; CME notes that the policies of the CFTC with respect to administering the Commodity Exchange Act are comparable to a number of the policies underlying the Exchange Act, such as promoting market transparency for over-the-counter derivatives markets,

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

promoting the prompt and accurate clearance of transactions and protecting investors and the public interest.

Because the proposed changes are limited in their effect to swaps products offered under CME's authority to act as a derivatives clearing organization, the proposed changes are properly classified as effecting a change in an existing service of CME that:

(a) primarily affects the clearing operations of CME with respect to products that are not securities, including futures that are not security futures, and swaps that are not security-based swaps or mixed swaps; and

(b) does not significantly affect any securities clearing operations of CME or any rights or obligations of CME with respect to securities clearing or persons using such securitiesclearing service.

As such, the changes are therefore consistent with the requirements of Section 17A of the Exchange Act^7 and are properly filed under Section $19(b)(3)(A)^8$ and Rule $19b-4(f)(4)(ii)^9$ thereunder.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

CME does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any impact, or impose any burden, on competition. The proposed rule change merely makes clarifying amendments for the purpose of harmonizing CME's IRS rules with its CDS rules.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(4)(ii).

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

CME has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments regarding this proposed rule change. CME has not received any unsolicited written comments from interested parties.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective upon filing pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)^{10}$ of the Act and paragraph (f)(4)(ii) of Rule 19b-4¹¹ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.¹²

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>), or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-CME-2014-01 on the subject line.

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(4)(ii).

¹² 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

Paper Comments:

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC, 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2014-01. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours or 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of CME and on CME's website at <u>http://www.cmegroup.com/market-</u>regulation/rule-filings.html.

All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2014-01 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹³

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

¹³ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).