# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-71403; File No. SR-CME-2014-03)

January 27, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Fee Schedule Applicable to its OTC Credit Default Swap Clearing Offering

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on January 17, 2014, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME" or the "Exchange") 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,<sup>3</sup> and Rule  $19b-4(f)(2)^4$  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 proposing to amend the fee schedule that currently applies to its OTC Credit Default Swap index clearing offering. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website at <u>http://www.cmegroup.com</u>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

### 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. With this filing, CME proposes to make certain amendments to the current fee schedule that applies to CDX North American Index Credit Default Swaps cleared at CME. The proposed modifications would extend the current twenty-five percent (25%) discount off of base clearing fees for all market participants that clear OTC North American Index CDS products at CME. The proposed changes also make one additional adjustment to the pricing in the current "Fee Schedule B" by amending a base fee from \$2.90 to \$2.00.

The changes that are described in this filing are limited to fee changes for OTC CDS index products. The proposed changes therefore will become effective immediately. It should also be noted that these proposed fee changes 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 has also certified the proposed rule changes that are

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the subject of this filing to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") in CFTC Submission 14-010.

CME believes the proposed rule changes are consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act including Section 17A of the Exchange Act. <sup>5</sup> More specifically, the proposed rule changes establish or change a member due, fee or other charge imposed by CME under Section  $19(b)(3)(A)(ii)^6$  of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule  $19b-4(f)(2)^7$  thereunder. CME believes that the proposed fee change is consistent with the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules and regulations thereunder and, in particular, to  $17A(b)(3)(D)^8$ , because the proposed fee changes apply equally to all market participants clearing covered products and therefore the proposed changes provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among participants. CME also notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct business to competing venues. As such, the proposed changes are appropriately filed pursuant to Section  $19(b)(3)(A)^9$  of the Act and paragraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4 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 modifications have the effect of extending current CDS index swap clearing pricing. These products are swaps under the exclusive jurisdiction of the

- <sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).
- <sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(D).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78q-1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

CFTC, and, as such, these proposed changes do not affect the security-based swap clearing activities of CME in any way and therefore do not impose any burden on competition that is inappropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### 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)(2) of Rule 19b-4 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.<sup>11</sup>

### 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:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

#### **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-2014-03 on the subject line.

#### 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-2014-03. 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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). 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 <a href="http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html">http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</a>.

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-2014-03 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.<sup>12</sup>

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).