SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-73259; File No. SR-CME-2014-37)

September 30, 2014

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change Regarding Acceptance of a New Series of Credit Default Swap Index Product

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder² notice is hereby given that on September 19, 2014, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as 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 proposed rules changes that are limited to its business as a derivatives clearing organization. More specifically, the proposed rule change involves CME's acceptance of a new credit default swap index product series.

- ³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).
- ⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(4)(ii).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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 of 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 these statements.

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

CME is registered as a DCO with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and offers clearing services for many different futures and swaps products, including certain credit default swap index products. Currently, CME offers clearing of the Markit CDX North American Investment Grade Index Series 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22. CME also offers clearing of the Markit CDX North American High Yield Index Series 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22.

The proposed rule change would expand CME's Markit CDX North American Investment Grade ("CDX IG") Index and Markit CDX North American High Yield ("CDX HY") Index product offerings by incorporating the upcoming Series 23 for both sets of index products.

In addition to the changes to expand CME's CDX offering, CME also proposes to remove from the current list of accepted CDX indices certain products whose termination dates have passed. These products are set forth in the following table:

2

CDX Index	Series	Termination Date (Scheduled Termination Date)
CDX North American Investment Grade (CDX.NA.IG)	8	20 Jun 2014
CDX North American Investment Grade (CDX.NA.IG)	12	20 Jun 2014
CDX North American Investment Grade (CDX.NA.IG)	16	20 Jun 2014
CDX North American High Yield (CDX.NA.HY)	12	20 Jun 2014

Although these changes will be effective on filing, CME plans to operationalize the proposed changes as follows: CDX IG 23 will become available for clearing on September 22, 2014 and CDX HY 23 will become available for clearing on September 29, 2014; provided that CME expects market participants to begin clearing CDX IG 23 and CDX HY beginning October 6, 2014 consistent with the ISDA protocol adopting the 2014 Credit Derivatives Definitions. The product deletions would be effective immediately.

The changes that are described in this filing are limited to CME's business as a DCO clearing products under the exclusive jurisdiction of the CFTC and do not materially impact CME's security-based swap clearing business in any way. CME notes that it has also certified the proposed rule change that is the subject of this filing to its primary regulator, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC"), in a separate filing, CME Submission 14-405. The text of the CME proposed rule amendments is attached, with additions underlined and deletions in brackets.

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 would expand CME's CDX IG and CDX HY product offerings by incorporating the upcoming Series 23 for both sets of index products and would therefore provide investors with an expanded range of derivatives products for clearing (and would also remove certain products whose termination dates have passed). As such, the proposed changes 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 DCO. These products are under the exclusive jurisdiction of the CFTC. As such, the proposed CME changes are limited to CME's activities as a DCO clearing swaps that are not security-based 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-thecounter derivatives markets, 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 DCO, the proposed changes are properly classified as effecting a change in an existing service of CME that:

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

(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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

CME does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any impact, or impose any burden, on competition. The rule change simply facilitates the offering of two new series of credit default swap index products.

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 Rule $19b-4(f)(4)(ii)^{11}$ thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the

¹¹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(4)(ii).

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).

¹⁰ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

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.

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 Number SR-CME-2014-37 on the subject line.

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2014-37. 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 all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between 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 of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filings will also 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-2014-37 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.¹²

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

¹² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).