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December 17, 2003

**VIA FACSIMILE**

Office of the Secretariat  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission  
Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21st Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20581

**Re: Certification: New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc.  
Submission #03.169 (Listing of Additional Strike Prices for the  
Gold, Silver, Copper, Natural Gas and Related Calendar Spread  
Option Contracts)**

Dear CFTC Commissioners:

Pursuant to COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03, COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20, the President of the New York Mercantile Exchange, Inc. ("Exchange") has directed that additional strike prices be added for certain contract months in the Gold, Silver, Copper, Natural Gas and related Calendar Spread option contracts as detailed below:

(A) On December 12, 2003, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(1) at the strike price of 8400 for the March 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(2) at the strike price of 6650 for the December 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(B) On December 15, 2003, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(3) at the strike price of 100 for the February 2004 contract month of the Gold option contract;

(4) at the strike price of 465 for the February 2004 contract month of the Gold option contract;

(5) at the strike price of 500 for the April 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas One month Calendar Spread option contract;

(6) at the strike price of 630 for the July 2004 contract month of the Silver option contract;

(7) at the strike price of 10000 for the January 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(8) at the strike price of 8000 for the March 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(C) On December 16, 2003, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(9) at the strike price of 700 for the February 2004 contract month of the Silver option contract;

(10) at the strike price of 12500 for the February 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(11) at the strike prices of 630 and 640 for the March 2004 contract month of the Silver option contract;

(12) at the strike price of 445 for the April 2004 contract month of the Gold option contract;

(13) at the strike price of 6850 for the April 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(D) On December 17, 2003, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(14) at the strike prices of 7550 and 8650 for the March 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(15) at the strike price of 8800 for the April 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(16) at the strike price of 114 for the May 2004 contract month of the Copper option contract; and

(17) at the strike prices of 750 and 775 for the July 2004 contract month of the Silver option contract.

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Pursuant to the terms of COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03, COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20, the strike prices noted above are in increments that are consistent with the pricing for the underlying futures contract. COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03, COMEX Rule 17.04 and NYMEX Rule 300.20 permit such directed strike prices to be effective upon adoption, provided that notice to the CFTC is given within three business days of the strike price listing.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact the undersigned at (212) 299-2207.

Very truly yours,

Brian Regan  
Vice President & Counsel

cc: Christopher K. Bowen  
George Henderson  
Michael Campanelli