

April 6, 2004

BY E-MAIL

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 #04.45 (Listing of Additional Strike Prices for the
Gold, Silver and Natural Gas Option Contracts)**

Dear CFTC Commissioners:

Pursuant to COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03 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 and Natural Gas option contracts as detailed below:

(A) On April 5, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(1) at the strike price of 7550 for the August 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(2) at the strike prices of 5950, 6450 and 7550 for the September 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

(3) at the strike price of 500 for the April 2005 contract month of the Gold option contract;

(B) On April 6, 2004, the Exchange added a call and a put:

(4) at the strike price of 600 for the October 2004 contract month of the Gold option contract;

(5) at the strike price of 6200 for the October 2004 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract;

CFTC Commissioners
April 6, 2004
Page 2

(6) at the strike price of 6200 for the March 2005 contract month of the Natural Gas option contract; and

(7) at the strike price of 1400 for the July 2005 contract month of the Silver option contract.

Pursuant to the terms of COMEX Rule 15.03(c), COMEX Rule 16.03 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 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