

August 30, 2021  
BY ELECTRONIC FILING  
Mr. Christopher J. Kirkpatrick  
Office of the Secretariat  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission  
Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21st Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20581

**Re: BTNL 2021-005 - Self-Certification Pursuant to CFTC Regulation 40.6 –  
Bitnomial Exchange, LLC Incentive Programs**

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

Bitnomial Exchange, LLC (“Bitnomial” or the “Exchange”) hereby submits for self-certification to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the “Commission” or “CFTC”), under Commission regulation 40.6(a), the following plans to implement the Initial Participant Provider Program and the Settlement Participant Incentive Programs (collectively, the “Programs”). The Programs will become effective on September 14, 2021.

The purpose of the Initial Participant Provider Program is to incentivize initial market liquidity. The purpose of the Settlement Participant Incentive is to incentivize settlement and roll period liquidity. Both Programs are designed to promote participation by providing incentives to Participants, Clearing Members, and Customers willing to alleviate some of the costs associated with Bitnomial products and to build liquidity in Bitnomial’s markets.

- 1) Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of the Programs. **[REDACTED]**
- 2) Exhibit 2 is Bitnomial’s FOIA request letter for confidentiality.

Core Principal Compliance

Bitnomial has concluded that its compliance with DCM Core Principles is not adversely affected by these changes. The Exchange will continue to comply with all DCM Core Principles. The Exchange has reviewed the Core Principles as set forth under Section 5 of the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended (the “Act”), and determined that the rule changes pertain to the following Core Principles:

**Core Principal 2- *Compliance with Rules:***

The Programs have been established under Bitnomial Rule 314 which allows the Exchange to create programs that provides incentives to Participants willing to add liquidity to Bitnomial markets.

**Core Principle 4 - *Prevention of Market Disruption:***

The Programs conform with Core Principle 4 and CFTC Regulation 38.251, which expressly provide that a DCM must adopt and implement rules governing market participants subject to its jurisdiction to prevent, detect, and mitigate market disruptions or system anomalies associated with electronic trading.

**Core Principal 7 - *Availability of General Information:***

Notification of the existence of the Programs have been posted to <https://bitnomial.com/regulation> in compliance with this Core Principal. Interested Market Participants may contact the Exchange for additional information concerning the Programs.

**Core Principal 9 – *Execution of Transactions:***

The products included in the Programs are listed for trading in competitive, open, and efficient markets.

**Core Principal 12 - *Protection of Markets and Market Participants:***

The Programs will have no effect on the Exchange's duties to protect the its markets and Market Participants from abusive, disruptive, fraudulent, noncompetitive and unfair conduct and trade practices.

**Core Principal 18 – *Recordkeeping:***

The Exchange is committed to its duties to maintain records pertaining to the Programs in a manner that satisfies the relevant criteria set forth in §1.31 of the Commission's Regulations.

**Core Principle 21, *Financial Resources:***

The proposed Programs will not impact the Exchange's ability to discharge its financial, operational, or managerial responsibilities as a DCM.

Certification

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Act and CFTC Regulation 40.6(a), Bitnomial certifies that the creation of the Programs comply with the Act and regulations thereunder. Bitnomial is not aware of any opposing views to the creation of the Programs.

Bitnomial certifies that a copy of this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <https://bitnomial.com/regulation>.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact the undersigned at [james.walsh@bitnomial.com](mailto:james.walsh@bitnomial.com).

Sincerely, /s/

James A. Walsh  
Chief Regulatory Officer  
Bitnomial Exchange, LLC

**Exhibit 1**

**[REDACTED]**

**Exhibit 2**

August 30, 2021

**VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION**

Assistant Secretary of the Commission  
for FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Acts Compliance  
Commodity Futures Trading Commission  
Three Lafayette Centre  
1155 21st Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20581

**Re: FOIA Confidential Treatment Request - Bitnomial Exchange, LLC Incentive Programs**

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of Bitnomial, Inc. (the “Company”), we have submitted documents, dated August 30, 2021 (the “Confidential Submission”), to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“Commission”) as part of Bitnomial Exchange, LLC’s BUS and BUI Incentive Programs.

We hereby petition the Commission, pursuant to Commission Regulations 145.5 and 145.9, to accept and retain in confidence the aforementioned documents until further notice as against any requestor who files with the Commission a request to inspect such documents pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act.

Confidential treatment is requested, among other things, on the grounds that the Confidential Submission contains data and information which would separately disclose business transactions and trade secrets that may not be disclosed to third parties, as provided in Section 8(a) of the Commodity Exchange Act and Commission Regulation 145.5(c)(1). Confidential treatment also is requested on the grounds that the Confidential Submission is exempt from disclosure under paragraph (b)(4) of the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) and Commission Regulations 145.5(d) and 145.9(d)(1)(ii), because it contains commercial and financial information that is confidential and would be of material assistance to competitors. Further, confidential treatment is requested on the grounds that the Confidential Submission includes personal information of the Company and other persons, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.

We understand that if the Commission receives a FOIA request for the Confidential Submission, we will be notified of such request in accordance with the Commission’s regulations and be asked to submit, within ten business days, a detailed written justification for confidential treatment of the Confidential Submission. In such event, we request that Commission staff telephone or email the undersigned rather than rely solely upon U.S. mail for such notice.

If the Commission or its staff transmits any of the Confidential Submission to another

federal agency, we request that you forward a copy of this letter to any such agency with the Confidential Submission and further request that you advise any such agency of the request that the material be accorded confidential treatment.

The requests set forth in the preceding paragraphs also apply to any memoranda, notes, transcripts or other writings of any sort whatsoever that are made by, or at the request of, any employee of the Commission (or any other federal agency) and which (1) incorporate, include or relate to any aspect of the Confidential Submission; or (2) refer to any conference, meeting, or telephone conversation regarding the Company relating to the Confidential Submission. Please direct any questions regarding this request for confidential treatment, as well as any notices pursuant to Commission Regulation 145.9(e), to the attention of the undersigned at [james.walsh@bitnomial.com](mailto:james.walsh@bitnomial.com).

Very truly yours,

/s/

James Walsh  
Chief Regulatory Officer  
Bitnomial Exchange, LLC  
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Chicago, IL 60606  
(312) 883-5851