NOTICE OF LISTING OF PRODUCTS BY NEX SEF LIMITED FOR TRADING BY CERTIFICATION

- 1. This submission is made pursuant to CFTC Reg. 40.2 by NEX SEF Limited ("NEX SEF").
- 2. The products certified by this submission are the following: Basis Swaps (the "Contracts").
- 3. Attached as <u>Attachment A</u> is a copy of the Contract's rules.
- 4. NEX SEF is listing the Contracts by virtue of updating the terms and conditions of the Basis Swaps previously submitted to the Commission for self-certification pursuant to Commission Regulation 40.2(a). The only terms and conditions of the Contracts that will be amended by this filing are: the Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") and the Federal Funds Rate ("Federal Funds") will be added as interest rate benchmarks ("Benchmark Rates") of the Contracts. No other terms and conditions of the Contracts are being amended by this filing. A copy of the Contracts' rules marked to show changes from the version previously certified by NEX SEF is attached as <u>Attachment B</u>.
- 5. NEX SEF intends to make this submission of the certification of the Contracts effective the day following submission pursuant to CFTC Reg. 40.2(a)(2).
- 6. Attached as <u>Attachment C</u> is a certification from NEX SEF that the Contracts comply with the Commodity Exchange Act and CFTC Regulations, and that NEX SEF has posted a notice of pending product certification and a copy of this submission on its website concurrent with the filing of this submission with the Commission.
- 7. As required by Commission Regulation 40.2(a), the following concise explanation and analysis demonstrates that the Contracts comply with the core principles of the Commodity Exchange Act for swap execution facilities, and in particular Core Principle 3, which provides that a swap execution facility shall permit trading only in swaps that are not readily susceptible to manipulation, in accordance with the applicable guidelines in Appendix B to Part 37 and Appendix C to Part 38 of the Commission's Regulations for contracts settled by cash settlement and options thereon.

<u>Appendix B to Part 37—Demonstration of Compliance That a Contract is Not Readily</u> <u>Susceptible to Manipulation</u>

Core Principle 3 of Section 5h of the Act—Swaps Not Readily Susceptible to Manipulation. The swap execution facility shall permit trading only in swaps that are not readily susceptible to manipulation.

(a) Guidance.

(1) In general, a swap contract is an agreement to exchange a series of cash flows over a period of time based on some reference price, which could be a single price, such as an absolute level or a differential, or a price index calculated based on multiple observations. Moreover, such a reference price may be reported by the swap execution facility itself or by an independent third party. When listing a swap for trading, a swap execution facility shall ensure a swap's compliance with Core Principle 3, paying special attention to the reference price used to determine the cash flow exchanges. Specifically, Core Principle 3 requires that the reference price used by a swap not be readily susceptible to manipulation. As a result, when identifying a reference price, a swap execution facility should either: Calculate its own reference price using suitable and well-established acceptable methods or carefully select a reliable third-party index.

- The reference prices on which each of the Contracts settles are based on the selected Benchmark Rates set forth in the Contract's terms and conditions. Each Benchmark Rate is calculated and published a reliable independent third party that is either a supervised manager of an inter-bank offered rate or the United States Federal Reserve Bank of New York (the "NY FED"), as discussed in more detail below.
- The Benchmark Rates are applied as a weighted average of the observed daily rates (e.g., Federal Funds or SOFR) over the interest accrual period in determining the floating rates, with the exception of SOFR, where the parties may determine to apply SOFR as either a weighted average over the interest accrual period ("SOFR-Weighted Average") or as compounded over the interest accrual period ("SOFR-Compounded"). For example, a SOFR-Compound leg uses the same rate that would apply to each business day under a SOFR-Weighted Average leg (i.e., SOFR) but uses a compounded average of those rates rather than a weighted average of those rates to determine the floating rate.

(2) The importance of the reference price's suitability for a given swap is similar to that of the final settlement price for a cash-settled futures contract. If the final settlement price is manipulated, then the futures contract does not serve its intended price discovery and risk management functions. Similarly, inappropriate reference prices cause the cash flows between the buyer and seller to differ from the proper amounts, thus benefitting one party and disadvantaging the other. Thus, careful consideration should be given to the potential for manipulation or distortion of the reference price.

• Please see below.

(3) For swaps that are settled by physical delivery or by cash settlement refer to the guidance in appendix C to part 38 of this chapter—Demonstration of Compliance That a Contract is not Readily Susceptible to Manipulation, section b(2) and section c(4), respectively.

• Please see below.

<u>Appendix C to Part 38—Demonstration of Compliance That a Contract is Not Readily</u> <u>Susceptible to Manipulation</u>

(c) Futures Contracts Settled by Cash Settlement. (1) Cash settlement is a method of settling certain futures or option contracts whereby, at contract expiration, the contract is settled by cash payment in lieu of physical delivery of the commodity or instrument underlying the contract. An acceptable specification of the cash settlement price for commodity futures and option contracts would include rules that fully describe the essential economic characteristics of the underlying commodity (e.g., grade, quality, weight, class, growth, issuer, maturity, source, rating, description of the underlying index and index's calculation methodology, etc.), as well as how the final settlement price is calculated. In addition, the rules should clearly specify the trading months and hours of trading, the last trading day, contract size, minimum price change (tick size) and any limitations on price movements (e.g., price limits or trading halts).

- Essential Economic Characteristics of the Contracts. The terms and conditions of the Contract 0 matches the terms of basis swaps that are commonly offered in the market and are listed in Attachment A. The Contract is a cash-settled interest rate swap that allows a party to speculate on, or hedge risks associated with, interest rate movements. The Contracts are available in multiple currencies and may require the exchange of interest rate payments based on a single currency. One party to a Contract (the "Buyer") makes periodic payments at a floating rate based on one of the Benchmark Rates plus a specified percentage (e.g., LIBOR + 2%) that is agreed to at the commencement of the Contract to the other party (the "Seller"). The Seller makes periodic payments at a floating rate based on one of the Benchmark Rates plus a specified percentage (e.g., SOFR Compounded + 2%). The Contracts require that periodic payments are exchanged for a specified period based on a notional amount. Settlement of the Contracts are based on the selected Benchmark Rates over a term to maturity. All of the essential terms of the Contract, other than the payments contingent on the Benchmark Rates, are agreed at the effective date of the Contract ("Effective Date"). The only terms and conditions of the Contracts that will be amended by this filing are: SOFR and Federal Funds will be added as Benchmark Rates for the Contracts.
- <u>Calculation of Cash Settlement Price</u>. One leg of each Contract will pay a floating set rate established at the Effective Date (*e.g.*, LIBOR + 2%) and which will remain unchanged throughout the life of the Contract. The other leg of the Contract will pay a different floating set rate that is also established at the Effective Date (*e.g.*, SOFR Compounded + 2%). The calculation of the relevant Benchmark Rate is governed by a standard set of rules and calculation procedures published by the Benchmark Rate provider, as discussed below.

(2) Cash settled contracts may be susceptible to manipulation or price distortion. In evaluating the susceptibility of a cash-settled contract to manipulation, a designated contract market should consider the size and liquidity of the cash market that underlies the listed contract in a manner that follows the determination of deliverable supply as noted above in (b)(1). In particular, situations susceptible to manipulation include those in which the volume of cash market transactions and/or the number of participants contacted in determining the cash-settlement price are very low. Cash-settled contracts may create an incentive to manipulate or artificially influence the data from which the cash-settlement price is derived or to exert undue influence on the cash-settlement price's computation in order to profit on a futures position in that commodity. The utility of a cash-settled contract for risk management and price discovery would be significantly impaired if the cash settlement price is not a reliable or robust indicator of the value of the underlying commodity or instrument. Accordingly, careful consideration should be given to the potential for manipulation or distortion of the cash settlement price, as well as the reliability of that price as an indicator of cash market values. Appropriate consideration also should be given to the commercial acceptability, public availability, and

timeliness of the price series that is used to calculate the cash settlement price. Documentation demonstrating that the settlement price index is a reliable indicator of market values and conditions and is commonly used as a reference index by industry/market agents should be provided. Such documentation may take on various forms, including carefully documented interview results with knowledgeable agents.

<u>Contract Not Readily Susceptible to Manipulation.</u> The Contracts are not readily susceptible to manipulation for a number of reasons. As noted above, all of the essential terms of the Contracts, other than the payments contingent on the Benchmark Rates, are agreed at the Effective Date, thereby reducing the impact of potentially unrepresentative data. Interest rate swaps are widely used by corporations, insurance companies, banks and governments to transfer and manage interest rate risk. The size and liquidity of the market in interest rate swaps is well documented and the significant liquidity in interest rate swaps such as the Contracts makes the Contracts difficult to manipulate. The floating rate of each Contract is the selected Benchmark Rate. Each Benchmark Rate is widely used and is calculated and published by the a reliable independent third party that is either a supervised manager of an inter-bank offered rate or the NY FED.

SOFR is a broad measure of the cost of borrowing cash overnight collateralized by U.S. Treasury securities and is calculated daily as a volume-weighted median. Federal Funds is a daily volume-weighted median of overnight federal funds transactions published based on established criteria. Both SOFR and Federal Funds are based on comprehensive, well-established and transparent rules that govern, among other things, the selection of data sources and inputs from which the Benchmark Rates are calculated.¹ SOFR and Federal Funds are widely accepted by market participants as reliable benchmark rates. Furthermore, the development and management of SOFR and Federal Funds are rules-based, therefore making it difficult for individuals or entities to change calculation of amounts due under the Contracts.

LIBOR and EURIBOR are inter-bank offered rates based on comprehensive, well-established and transparent rules that govern, among other things, the selection of banks which submit prices, the appointment of the relevant calculation agent and the calculation of the offered rate.² LIBOR and EURIBOR are widely accepted by market participants as reliable inter-bank offered rates. Furthermore, the development and management of LIBOR and EURIBOR is rules-based, therefore making it difficult for individuals or entities to change calculation of amounts due under the Contract.

Additionally, each Benchmark Rate is widely followed by numerous market participants and basing interest rate swaps on the Benchmark Rates has been a longstanding and widely accepted practice. Accordingly, the Contracts are not readily susceptible to manipulation or price distortion because the method of determining the cash settlement price is based on terms that are fixed at the Effective Date of each Contract and a reliable Benchmark Rate.

(3) Where an independent, private-sector third party calculates the cash settlement price series, a designated contract market should consider the need for a licensing agreement that will ensure the designated contract market's rights to the use of the price series to settle the listed contract.

(i) Where an independent, private-sector third party calculates the cash settlement price series, the designated contract market should verify that the third party utilizes business

¹ See <u>https://www.newyorkfed.org/markets/treasury-repo-reference-rates-information;</u> <u>https://www.newyorkfed.org/markets/obfrinfo</u>

² See https://www.theice.com/iba/libor; and https://www.emmi-benchmarks.eu/euribor-org/about-euribor.html.

practices that minimize the opportunity or incentive to manipulate the cash-settlement price series. Such safeguards may include lock-downs, prohibitions against derivatives trading by employees, or public dissemination of the names of sources and the price quotes they provide. Because a cash-settled contract may create an incentive to manipulate or artificially influence the underlying market from which the cash-settlement price is derived or to exert undue influence on the cash-settlement computation in order to profit on a futures position in that commodity, a designated contract market should, whenever practicable, enter into an information-sharing agreement with the third-party provider which would enable the designated contract market to better detect and prevent manipulative behavior.

Independent Third-Party Pricing. As described above, the cash settlement price is calculated through a cash settlement method that is not readily susceptible to manipulation. The NY FED manages and/or calculates SOFR and Federal Funds. ICE Benchmark Administration (IBA) and the European Money Markets Institute (EMMI) manage and/or calculate LIBOR and EURIBOR. NEX SEF believes that each of the NY FED, IBA and EMMI is impartial, employs appropriate safeguards against manipulation to protect the value of the relevant Benchmark Rate, and uses business practices that minimize the opportunity or incentive to manipulate the reference index associated with each Contract's exchange of cash flows. To the extent that NEX SEF's Market Regulation Department determines that there is reason to suspect manipulation or attempted manipulation with respect to a Contract that involves one of the Benchmark Rates, it will so inform the manager of the relevant Benchmark Rate, a applicable, and will seek to share information as necessary to investigate the potential manipulation or attempted manipulation.

(ii) Where a designated contract market itself generates the cash settlement price series, the designated contract market should establish calculation procedures that safeguard against potential attempts to artificially influence the price. For example, if the cash settlement price is derived by the designated contract market based on a survey of cash market sources, the designated contract market should maintain a list of such entities which all should be reputable sources with knowledge of the cash market. In addition, the sample of sources polled should be representative of the cash market, and the poll should be conducted at a time when trading in the cash market is active.

o Please see above.

(iii) The cash-settlement calculation should involve computational procedures that eliminate or reduce the impact of potentially unrepresentative data.

• Please see above.

(iv) The cash settlement price should be an accurate and reliable indicator of prices in the underlying cash market. The cash settlement price also should be acceptable to commercial users of the commodity contract. The registered entity should fully document that the settlement price is accurate, reliable, highly regarded by industry/market agents, and fully reflects the economic and commercial conditions of the relevant designated contract market.

o Please see above.

(v) To the extent possible, the cash settlement price should be based on cash price series that are publicly available and available on a timely basis for purposes of calculating the cash settlement price at the expiration of a commodity contract. A designated contract market should make the final cash settlement price and any other supporting information that is appropriate for release to the public, available to the public when cash settlement is

accomplished by the derivatives clearing organization. If the cash settlement price is based on cash prices that are obtained from non-public sources (e.g., cash market surveys conducted by the designated contract market or by third parties on behalf of the designated contract market), a designated contract market should make available to the public as soon as possible after a contract month's expiration the final cash settlement price as well as any other supporting information that is appropriate or feasible to make available to the public.

- The various Benchmark Rates are readily available via a number of sources.
- (4) Contract terms and conditions requirements for futures contracts settled by cash settlement.

(i) An acceptable specification of the terms and conditions of a cash-settled commodity contract will also set forth the trading months, last trading day, contract size, minimum price change (tick size) and daily price limits, if any.

• The essential terms and conditions of the Contracts are attached as <u>Attachment A</u>.

(A) Commodity Characteristics: The terms and conditions of a commodity contract should describe the commodity underlying the contract.

• The terms and conditions of the Contracts specify that the Contracts are based on the Benchmark Rates.

(B) Contract Size and Trading Unit: An acceptable specification of the trading unit would be a contract size that is consistent with customary transactions in the cash market. A designated contract market may opt to set the contract size smaller than that of standard cash market transactions.

• The size of each Contract is consistent with customary transactions in the market.

(C) Cash Settlement Procedure: The cash settlement price should be reliable, acceptable, publicly available, and reported in a timely manner as described in paragraphs (c)(3)(iv) and (c)(3)(v) of this appendix C.

• The cash settlement procedures and an explanation of how the Contracts are not readily susceptible to manipulation are described above.

(D) Pricing Basis and Minimum Price Fluctuation (Minimum Tick): The minimum price increment (tick) should be set a level that is equal to, or less than, the minimum price increment commonly observed in cash market transactions for the underlying commodity. Specifying a futures' minimum tick that is greater than the minimum price increment in the cash market can undermine the risk management utility of the futures contract by preventing hedgers from efficiently establishing and liquidating futures positions that are used to hedge anticipated cash market transactions or cash market positions.

o As agreed to between the parties.

(E) Maximum Price Fluctuation Limits: Designated contract markets may adopt price limits to: (1) Reduce or constrain price movements in a trading day that may not be reflective of true market conditions but might be caused by traders overreacting to news; (2) Allow additional time for the collection of margins in times of large price movements; and (3) Provide a "cooling-off" period for futures market participants to respond to bona fide changes in market supply and demand fundamentals that would lead to large cash and futures price changes. If price-limit provisions are adopted, the limits should be set at levels that are not overly restrictive in relation to price movements in the cash market for the commodity underlying the futures contract. For broad-based stock index futures contracts, rules should be adopted that coordinate with New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") declared Circuit Breaker Trading Halts (or other market coordinated Circuit Breaker mechanism) and would recommence trading in the futures contract only after trading in the majority of the stocks underlying the index has recommenced.

 NEX SEF believes price limits are not necessary for the Contracts and accordingly has not adopted price limits.

(F) Last Trading Day: Specification of the last trading day for expiring contracts should be established such that it occurs before publication of the underlying third-party price index or determination of the final settlement price. If the designated contract market chooses to allow trading to occur through the determination of the final settlement price, then the designated contract market should show that futures trading would not distort the final settlement price calculation.

• The last trading day for each Contract is the Maturity Date of the Contract, which is set by the counterparties. The Benchmark Rates are published daily.

(G) Trading Months: Trading months should be established based on the risk management needs of commercial entities as well as the availability of price and other data needed to calculate the cash settlement price in the specified months. Specification of the last trading day should take into consideration whether the volume of transactions underlying the cash settlement price would be unduly limited by occurrence of holidays or traditional holiday periods in the cash market. Moreover, a contract should not be listed past the date for which the designated contract market has access to use a proprietary price index for cash settlement.

• The Maturity Date of each Contract is agreed to between the parties and based on their risk management needs. The Maturity Date may be in any calendar month.

(H) Speculative Limits: Specific rules and policies for speculative position limits are set forth in part 150 and/or part 151, as applicable, of the Commission's regulations.

 None are currently required by the Commission. If and to the extent the Commission imposes speculative limits on any Contract, the limits imposed by NEX SEF will be the same.

(I) Reportable Levels: Refer to § 15.03 of the Commission's regulations.

 None are currently required by the Commission. If and to the extent the Commission imposes a reporting requirement based on reportable levels of any Contract imposed by the Commission, the reportable levels imposed by NEX SEF will be the same.

(J) Trading Hours: Should be set by the designated contract market to delineate each trading day.

- Order Book: 24 Hours, beginning at 6:00 a.m. Wellington Time on Monday (5:00 p.m. UTC on Sunday during NZDT/6:00 p.m. UTC on Sunday during NZST) and ending at 5:00 p.m. New York Time on Friday (10:00 p.m. UTC during EST/9:00 p.m. UTC during EDT).
- Voice RFQ: Not available.

 All Pre-Arranged Crosses: 24 Hours, beginning at 6:00 a.m. Wellington Time on Monday (5:00 p.m. UTC on Sunday during NZDT/6:00 p.m. UTC on Sunday during NZST) and ending at 5:00 p.m. New York Time on Friday (10:00 p.m. UTC during EST/9:00 p.m. UTC during EDT).

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In addition to the foregoing, NEX SEF has adopted rules in its Rulebook prohibiting any Participant or Customer from engaging in manipulative trading activity and NEX SEF is required to, and will, monitor all trading on NEX SEF in order to identify any such manipulative activity. NEX SEF has authority to impose on its Participants and Customers fines and disciplinary sanctions in the event that such manipulative activity has occurred.

Attachment A

SEF Rule 802 (2)

Rule 802(2) — Basis Swaps

A Basis Swap is an Interest Rate Swap for which settlement is in the form of periodic floating interest payments and periodic floating interest payments based on interest rate benchmarks over a term to maturity. The interest rate payments are exchanged for a specified period based on a notional amount.

Currencies			
USD			
EUR			

Specifications

Trading Conventions

- Buyer (Payer) pays floating interest rate plus/minus a spread and receives floating interest rate.
- Seller (Receiver) receives floating interest rate plus/minus a spread and pays floating interest rate.

Swap Leg Conventions

- The terms of Basis Swaps are based on a number of combinations of the criteria below.
 - Floating Leg 1
 - Payment Frequency
 - o Monthly, Quarterly, Semi-Annually, or Annually
 - Day Count Convention
 - Money Market Basis (actual/360), actual/365, actual/actual, actual/366, 360/360, 30/360, 30E/360 or AFI/365
 - Holiday Calendar
 - Applied in accordance for the country currency denoted for the instrument
 - **Business Day Convention**
 - Modified Following with adjustment to period end dates. Business days in this convention must be valid business days on both the calendars. If not, it will be the next day that is a business day on both calendars.
 - Floating Rate
 - o The floating interest rate yield or basis points on Trade
 - Date
 - Floating Leg 2
 - Reset Frequency
 - o Monthly, Quarterly, Semi-Annual or Annually
 - Day Count Convention
 - Actual/360, actual/365, 360/360, 30/360, 30E/360, Actual Fixed/365, actual /366, actual / actual
 - Holiday Calendar.
 - Applied in accordance for the currency denoted for the instrument
 - Business Day Convention
 - o Modified Following with adjustment to period end dates
 - Business days in this convention must be valid business days on both calendars
 - If not, it will be the next day that is a business day on calendars.
 - Floating Rate

- The floating interest rate yield or basis points on Trade Date
- Interest Rate Benchmark
 - LIBOR, EURIBOR, SOFR, FED FUNDS, SOFRThe Interest Rate Benchmarks are applied as a weighted average of the observed daily rates over the Tenor in determining the Floating Rates, with the exception of SOFR, where the parties may determine to apply SOFR as either a weighted average over the Tenor ("SOFR-Weighted Average") or as compounded over the Tenor ("SOFR-Compound").

Effective Date

• The first date from which floating interest amounts accrue. It is also referred to as the Start Date or the Value Date. The Effective Date of the Swap must be a business day subject to the appropriate Business Day Convention.

Trade Start Type

- Spot Starting
- A swap whose Effective Date is 2 business days from the Trade Date (T+2).
- o Forward Starting
 - A swap whose Effective Date is anything after the Effective Date for a Spot Starting swap.

Maturity Date

• The final date until which floating amounts accrue. The Maturity Date may also be referred to as the Termination Date or End Date.

Tenor

- The duration of time from the Effective Date to the Maturity Date. The SEF will support Tenors of any duration greater than 0 years to 50 years.
- Listed Tenors, also referred to as On-the-Run, are whole calendar year Spot Starting or Same Day Starting Swaps with a Tenor of 1 through 50 years.
- Other Tenors means any whole year Tenors other than the Listed Tenors and any partial year Tenor.

Roll Day Convention

- The date used for determining all Floating Reset Dates (other than for Daily Overnight Rates (as defined below), which are daily rates). Roll Days define the beginning and end of Floating interest accrual periods.
- For On-the-Run swaps, the Roll Day is the same date of the month as the Effective Date. For Off-the-Run swaps, it can be any date of the month, subject to the provisions of the Business Day Convention. Roll Day marks the start of a new interest accrual period and is the date on which a Reset Rate takes effect (other than for Daily Overnight Rates, which are daily rates).
 - Note: Subject to good local days as with all instruments, will never roll forward to the following month.

Floating Reset Dates

 Dates utilized to determine the Floating Rate amounts for each interest accrual period during the Tenor of the swap. Except in the case of a Stub Period or in the case of any Daily Overnight Rate leg, the Reset Date is 2 business days (USD or EUR) prior to the Roll Day for that interest accrual period. In the case of any Daily Overnight Rate leg, the Reset Date is the day prior to the Roll Day that ends the interest accrual period.

First Period Fixing Date

- For Spot Starting and Same Day Starting swaps, the Interest Rate for the first interest period is fixed on the Trade Date, for both Floating Rates (other than with respect to Overnight Rates), for which the Floating Rates are not ascertainable at such time).
- For Forward Starting swaps, the Floating Rate for the first interest period is fixed on the Trade Date, and the Floating Rate for the first interest period is fixed 2 business days prior to the Effective Date (other than with respect to Daily Overnight Rates, for which the Floating Rates are not ascertainable at such time).

Stub Period Rate

 For swaps with partial year Tenors, an interest period that is shorter than the standard underlying Floating index interest periods may occur between the Effective Date and the first or last Roll Date (knows as a Stub Period). In these cases, the Interest Rate for such Stub Period is determined using linear interpolation based on the two index rates that surround the Stub Period this can be applied either at the start or end of that period: Front or Back. This is not applicable to Daily Overnight Rates, which are daily rates.

Daily Overnight Rate Legs:

 Certain swap legs use daily overnight interest rates observed on business days during the interest accrual period ("Daily Overnight Rates"). Those interest rates may compounded over the interest accrual period (e.g., SOFR-Compound) or use a weighted average of the observed rates (e.g., FED FUNDS, SOFR-Weighted Average). As a result, the rate applicable to the relevant interest accrual period cannot be determined until the end of that period and certain conventions applicable to accruals where the rate is set in advance do not apply.

Trade Types

- The Platform may support the following trade types:
 - Outrights
 - An Outright swap is where one party is the payer of the Floating Rate 1 plus/minus a spread and receiver of the Floating Rate 2 and the other party is the receiver of the Floating Rate 1 plus/minus a spread and payer of the Floating Rate 2.
 - Switches
 - Switches are the simultaneous purchase and sale of two different Tenors of the yield curve (e.g. 2 year by 10 year).
 - Butterflies
 - Butterflies are the simultaneous purchase(s) and sale(s) of three different tenors of the yield curve (e.g. 2 year by 5 year by 10 year).

Instrument minimum and incremental Size.

- o Minimum notional size is dependent on currency and tenor
- Block Trades
- Minimum notional size as stated by the Commission and increments dependent on currency and tenor.

Quoting Convention

- o Outrights are quoted in interest rate yield is dependent on currency.
- Spreads and Butterflies are quoted in interest rate yield differential in minimum 1/10th basis point increments.
 - Spot Starting
 - Close of business on Trade Date.
 - Forward Starting

- Close of business three business days prior to the Effective Date of the swap.
- Block Trades must occur outside the Order Book and in a quantity that meets or exceeds Appropriate Minimum Block Sizes set by the Commission.

Clearing

 Contracts are eligible to be cleared at LCH, Clearnet and CME.³ Please see clearable contract definitions at <u>http://www.lchclearnet.com/</u> and <u>http://www.cmegroup.com/</u>

³ NB: NEX SEF to confirm.

Attachment B

Marked SEF Rule 802 (2)

Rule 802(2) — Basis Swaps

A Basis Swap is an Interest Rate Swap for which settlement is in the form of periodic floating interest payments and periodic floating interest payments based on interest rate benchmarks over a term to maturity. The interest rate payments are exchanged for a specified period based on a notional amount.

Currencies			
USD			
EUR			

Specifications

Trading Conventions

- Buyer (Payer) pays floating interest rate plus/minus a spread and receives floating interest rate.
- Seller (Receiver) receives floating interest rate plus/minus a spread and pays floating interest rate.

Swap Leg Conventions

- The terms of Floating vs. Floating Interest Rate Basis Swaps are based on a number of combinations of the criteria below.
 - Floating Leg 1

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- Payment Frequency
 - o Monthly, Quarterly, Semi-Annually, or Annually
 - Day Count Convention
 - Money Market Basis (actual/360), actual/365, actual/actual, actual/366, 360/360, 30/360, 30E/360 or AFI/365
- Holiday Calendar
 - Applied in accordance for the country currency denoted for the instrument
- **Business Day Convention**
 - Modified Following with adjustment to period end dates. Business days in this convention must be valid business days on both the calendars. If not, it will be the next day that is a business day on both calendars.
- Floating Rate
 - The floating interest rate yield or basis points on Trade Date
- Floating Leg 2
 - Reset Frequency
 - Monthly, Quarterly, Semi-Annual or Annually
 - Day Count Convention
 - Actual/360, actual/365, 360/360, 30/360, 30E/360, Actual Fixed/365, actual /366, actual / actual
 - Holiday Calendar.
 - Applied in accordance for the country currency denoted for the instrument
 - Business Day Convention
 - Modified Following with adjustment to period end dates
 - Business days in this convention must be valid business days on both calendars
 - If not, it will be the next day that is a business day on calendars.

- <u>Floating Rate</u>
 - <u>•</u> <u>The floating interest rate yield or basis points on Trade</u> <u>Date</u>
- Interest Rate Benchmark
 - LIBOR, EURIBOR, SOFR, FED FUNDS, SOFRThe Interest Rate Benchmarks are applied as a weighted average of the observed daily rates over the Tenor in determining the Floating Rates, with the exception of SOFR, where the parties may determine to apply SOFR as either a weighted average over the Tenor ("SOFR-Weighted Average") or as compounded over the Tenor ("SOFR-Compound").

Effective Date

• The first date from which floating interest amounts accrue. It is also referred to as the Start Date or the Value Date. The Effective Date of the Swap must be a business day subject to the appropriate Business Day Convention.

Trade Start Type

- Spot Starting
- A swap whose Effective Date is 2 business days from the Trade Date (T+2).
- Forward Starting
 - A swap whose Effective Date is anything after the Effective Date for a Spot Starting swap.

Maturity Date

• The final date until which <u>Floatingfloating</u> amounts accrue. The Maturity Date may also be referred to as the Termination Date or End Date.

Tenor

- The duration of time from the Effective Date to the Maturity Date. The ExchangeSEF will support Tenors of any duration greater than 0 years to 50 years.
- Listed Tenors, also referred to as On-the-Run, <u>meansare</u> whole <u>calendar</u> year Spot Starting or Same Day Starting <u>InstrumentsSwaps</u> with a Tenor of 1 through 50 years.
- Other Tenors means any whole year Tenors other than the Listed Tenors and any partial year Tenor.

Roll Day Convention

- The date used for determining all fixed and floating Floating Reset Dates (other than for Daily Overnight Rates (as defined below), which are daily rates). Roll Days define the beginning and end of Floating interest accrual periods.
- For On-the-Run Instrumentsswaps, the Roll Day is the same date of the month as the Effective Date. For Off-the-Run Instrumentsswaps, it can be any date of the month, subject to the provisions of the Business Day Convention. Roll Day marks the start of a new interest accrual period and is the date on which a Reset Rate takes effect (other than for Daily Overnight Rates, which are daily rates).
 - Note: Subject to good local days as with all instruments, will never roll forward to the following month.

Floating Reset Dates

Dates utilized to determine the Floating Rate amounts for each interest accrual period during the Tenor of the <u>Instrumentswap</u>. Except in the case of a Stub Period or in the case of any <u>Daily Overnight Rate leg</u>, the Reset Date is 2 business days (USD or EUR) prior to the Roll <u>DateDay</u> for that interest accrual period. In the case of any <u>Daily Overnight Rate leg</u>, the Reset Date is the day prior to the Roll Day that ends the interest accrual period.

First Period Fixing Date

- For Spot Starting and Same Day Starting swaps, the Interest Rate for the first interest period is fixed on the Trade Date, for both Floating Rates <u>(other than with respect to Overnight</u> <u>Rates)</u>, for which the Floating Rates are not ascertainable at such time).
- For Forward Starting swaps, the Floating Rate for the first interest period is fixed on the Trade Date, and the Floating Rate for the first interest period is fixed 2 business days prior to the Effective Date (other than with respect to Daily Overnight Rates, for which the Floating Rates are not ascertainable at such time).

Stub Period Rate

For swaps with partial year Tenors, an interest period that is shorter than the standard underlying Floating index interest periods may occur between the Effective Date and the first or last Roll Date (knows as a Stub Period). In these cases, the Interest Rate for such Stub Period is determined using linear interpolation based on the two index rates that surround the Stub Period this can be applied either at the start or end of that period: Front or Back. <u>This is not applicable to Daily Overnight Rates</u>, which are daily rates.

Daily Overnight Rate Legs:

<u>Certain swap legs use daily overnight interest rates observed on business days during the interest accrual period ("Daily Overnight Rates"). Those interest rates may compounded over the interest accrual period (e.g., SOFR-Compound) or use a weighted average of the observed rates (e.g., FED FUNDS, SOFR-Weighted Average). As a result, the rate applicable to the relevant interest accrual period cannot be determined until the end of that period and certain conventions applicable to accruals where the rate is set in advance do not apply.</u>

Trade Types

- The Platform may support the following trade types:
 - Outrights
 - An Outright swap is where one party is the payer of the floating rateFloating Rate 1 plus/minus a spread and receiver of the floating rateFloating Rate 2 and the other party is the receiver of the floating rateFloating Rate 1 plus/minus a spread and payer of the floating rateFloating Rate 2.
 - Switches
 - Switches are the simultaneous purchase and sale of two different Tenors of the yield curve (e.g. 2 year by 10 year).
 - Butterflies
 - Butterflies are the simultaneous purchase(s) and sale(s) of three different tenors of the yield curve (e.g. 2 year by 5 year by 10 year).

Instrument minimum and incremental Size.

- Minimum notional size is dependent on currency and tenor
 - Block Trades
- Minimum notional size as stated by the Commission and increments dependent on currency and tenor.

Quoting Convention

- Outrights are quoted in interest rate yield is dependent on currency.
- Spreads and Butterflies are quoted in interest rate yield differential in minimum 1/10th basis point increments.
 - Spot Starting

- Close of business on Trade Date.
- Forward Starting
 - Close of business three business days prior to the Effective Date of the swap.
- Block Trades must occur outside the Order Book and in a quantity that meets or exceeds Appropriate Minimum Block Sizes set by the Commission.

Clearing

• Contracts are eligible to be cleared at LCH₇ Clearnet and CME. Please see clearable contract definitions at <u>http://www.lchclearnet.com/</u> and http://www.cmegroup.com/

ATTACHMENT C - CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO CFTC REGULATION 40.2

The undersigned hereby certifies that each product described in this submission complies with the Commodity Exchange Act and the CFTC Regulations thereunder, and that concurrent with the filing of this submission with the Commission, NEX SEF Limited will be posting on its website, on April 21, 2020, a copy of this submission and a notice of pending product certification of this product with the Commission.

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