### SUBMISSION COVER SHEET **IMPORTANT:** Check box if Confidential Treatment is requested Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional): 15-465 Organization: The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. ("CBOT") $\times$ DCM SEF DCO SDR Filing as a: Please note - only ONE choice allowed. Filing Date (mm/dd/yy): 11/18/2015 Filing Description: Amendments to Grades/Grade **Differentials Rule for the Oats Futures Contract SPECIFY FILING TYPE** Please note only ONE choice allowed per Submission. **Organization Rules and Rule Amendments** Certification § 40.6(a) Approval § 40.5(a) Notification § 40.6(d) Advance Notice of SIDCO Rule Change § 40.10(a) SIDCO Emergency Rule Change § 40.10(h) **Rule Numbers: New Product** Please note only ONE product per Submission. Certification § 40.2(a) **Certification Security Futures** § 41.23(a) Certification Swap Class § 40.2(d) Approval § 40.3(a) **Approval Security Futures** § 41.23(b) Novel Derivative Product Notification § 40.12(a) Swap Submission § 39.5 Official Product Name: **Product Terms and Conditions (product related Rules and Rule Amendments)** Certification § 40.6(a) Certification Made Available to Trade Determination § 40.6(a) **Certification Security Futures** § 41.24(a) Delisting (No Open Interest) § 40.6(a) Approval § 40.5(a) Approval Made Available to Trade Determination § 40.5(a) **Approval Security Futures** § 41.24(c) Approval Amendments to enumerated agricultural products § 40.4(a), § 40.5(a) "Non-Material Agricultural Rule Change" § 40.4(b)(5) Notification § 40.6(d) Official Name(s) of Product(s) Affected: Oats Futures Rule Numbers: CBOT Rule 15104.



November 18, 2015

#### **VIA ELECTRONIC PORTAL**

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: CFTC Regulation 40.6(a) Certification. Notification Regarding Amendments to Grades/Grade Differentials Rule for the Oats Futures Contract.

**CBOT Submission No. 15-465** 

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick:

The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. ("CBOT" or "Exchange") is notifying the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") that it is self-certifying amendments to Rule 15104. ("Grades/Grade Differentials") of the Oat Futures contract (CME Globex Code: ZO; Clearing Code: O; Rulebook Chapter 15), effective on Sunday, December 6, 2015 for trade date Monday, December 7, 2015.

The amendments are intended to clarify existing language in the Exchange Rulebook. Specifically, the USDA grading standard for oats states that slightly weathered oats may be graded not better than No. 3 regardless of the other factors. Thus, the Exchange allows No. 3 oats that are slightly weathered. However, for all of the other factors included in the USDA standard, with the exception of slightly weathered, the deliverer must deliver No. 1 or No. 2 as described in the table in Rule 15104. Amendments to Rule 15104. appear in Exhibit A in blackline format.

The Exchange reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA" or "Act") and identified that the amendments may have some bearing on the following Core Principle:

 <u>Availability of General Information</u>: To comply with this Core Principle and to ensure that market participants are apprised of the amendments to Rule 15104., CBOT will issue a CME Group Special Executive Report ("SER") to provide notification to the marketplace. The SER will be also posted on the CME Group website.

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Act and CFTC Regulation 40.6(a), the Exchange hereby certifies that the aforementioned amendments comply with the Act, including regulations under the Act. There were no substantive opposing views regarding the proposed amendments.

The Exchange certifies that this submission has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <a href="http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html">http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html</a>.

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please e-mail <a href="mailto:CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com">CMEGSubmissionInquiry@cmegroup.com</a> or contact the undersigned at 212-299-2200.

Sincerely,

/s/Christopher Bowen Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachment: Exhibit A – Amendments to CBOT Rule 15104.

# Exhibit A

# **CBOT Rulebook**

(Additions are underlined)

# Chapter 15

#### **Oat Futures**

#### 15104. **GRADES / GRADE DIFFERENTIALS**

OATS GRADE DIFFERENTIALS	
No. 1 Extra Heavy Oats	At 7 cents per bushel over contract price
No. 2 Extra Heavy Oats	At 4 cents per bushel over contract price
No. 1 Heavy Oats	At 3 cents per bushel over contract price
No. 2 Heavy Oats	At contract price
No. 1 Oats	At contract price
No. 2 Oats (36 lb. minimum test weight)	At 3 cents per bushel under contract price

Oats with more than 30% thin oats that pass through a 5/64 x 3/4 inch slotted-hole sieve are not deliverable.

Slightly weathered oats may be delivered at a 20 cent per bushel discount. The No. 3 grade (on account of slightly weathered) is allowed with all other quality factors meeting at least No. 2 grade. When registering oat shipping certificates, if the warehouseman specifies one of the oat grades in the table above (e.g., No. 2 Extra Heavy Oats) but also designates that it is delivering weathered oats by selecting "Yes" in the "Slightly Weathered" field, at load-out the warehouseman may load oats that are slightly weathered (No. 3), but all other grade factors shall be equivalent to or better than the grade specified on the registered shipping certificate.

Bright Oats shall carry no additional premium or discount. Oats with more than 14% moisture are not deliverable.

A contract for the sale of oats for future delivery shall be performed on the basis of the grades officially promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture as conforming to United States Standards at the time of making the contract. If no such United States grades shall have been officially promulgated, then such contract shall be performed on the basis of the grades established by the Department of Agriculture of the State of Illinois, or the standards established by the Rules of the Exchange in force at the time of making the contract.