CFTC letter No. 02-111 October 24, 2002 Exemption Division of Clearing and Intermediary Oversight

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## Dear X:

This is in response to your letters dated October 2, 15, and 16, 2002 to the Division of Trading and Markets, (now Division of Clearing and Intermediary Oversight) ("Division") of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission"), requesting exemptive relief from the requirement of Rule 4.22(d) that the financial statements prepared for the Annual Report be certified by an independent public accountant. The request is filed on behalf of XX, the commodity pool operator ("CPO") for Y (the "Pool").

Rule 4.22(c) requires each registered CPO to file an Annual Report with the Commission and distribute copies to pool participants within 90 calendar days of the end of the pool's fiscal year. Rule 4.22(d) requires that the financial statements in the Annual Report must be prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and certified by an independent public accountant. The principal purpose of financial reporting required by Rule 4.22 is to ensure that pool participants receive accurate, fair and timely information on the overall trading performance and financial condition of the pool. You request exemption from filing an audited financial report for 2001 due to the fact that the pool closed in August 2001 and the only participant at liquidation was the general partner.

Based upon our review of the financial statements you have submitted in support of your request, it appears that as of July 31, 2001, the net asset value of the Pool was \$140,374, all general partner funds. You have submitted a statement in support of this exemption from the general partner.

You have also submitted unaudited statements for the period January 1, 2001 through August 31, 2001, the operating period for the year.

In light of the representations made in your letter, in particular those relating to the small size of the Pool and the small number of participants in the Pool, the Division believes that granting the request on behalf of the CPO is neither contrary to the purposes of Rule 4.22 nor to the public interest. Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated by Rule 140.93(a)(1), XX is hereby granted relief from the certification requirement of Rule 4.22(d) for the Pool's fiscal year ending 2001.

This letter in no way shall excuse XX or Y from compliance with any other applicable requirements contained in the Commodity Exchange Act<sup>[2]</sup> or in the Commission's regulations issued thereunder.

This letter, and the exemption granted herein, is based on the representations that have been made to the Division. Any different, changed or omitted facts or conditions might render the exemption void. You must notify the Division immediately in the event the operations of the CPO or the Pool change in any material way from those represented to us.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact me or Don Bass, a Futures Trading Specialist on my staff, at (202) 418-5462.

Very truly yours,

Kevin P. Walek Assistant Director (202) 418-5463

cc: Regina Thoele, Compliance National Futures Association

<sup>[1]</sup> Commission rules referred to herein are found at 17 C.F.R. Ch. I (2001).

<sup>[2] 7</sup> U.S.C. § 1 et seq. (2000).