

U.S. COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

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April 13, 2001

Mr. Richard J. McDonald
Senior Vice President, Research
And Chief Economist
Chicago Mercantile Exchange
30 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

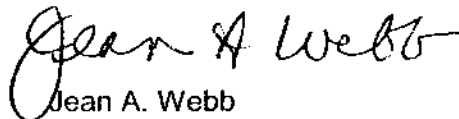
Re: Notice that the Commission has Approved the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Benzene Futures Contract and the Corresponding Rules.

Dear Mr. McDonald:

By a submission dated February 8, 2001, which was received by the Commission on February 9, 2001, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME or Exchange) requested that the Commission approve its benzene futures contract and the corresponding rules pursuant to Section 5c(c)(2)(A) of the Commodity Exchange Act as amended (Act).

The Commission has reviewed the materials submitted by the Exchange and has determined that the contract meets the requirements of the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission rules and regulations thereunder including Guideline No. 1. Accordingly, please be advised that, as of the date of this letter, the CME's benzene futures contract and rules --00, --01, --02, --03, and --04 were approved pursuant to Section 5c(c)(3) of the Act.

Sincerely,


Jean A. Webb
Secretary of the Commission

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