

March 13, 2013

#### **VIA E-MAIL**

Ms. Melissa Jurgens
Office of the Secretariat
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

RE: Modifications to the CBOT Agricultural Back Month Incentive Program

**CBOT Submission No. 13-089** 

Dear Ms. Jurgens:

The Board of Trade of the City of Chicago, Inc. ("CBOT" or the "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") of modifications (extension) to the CBOT Agricultural Back Month Incentive Program ("Program"). The proposed modifications to the Program will become effective on April 1, 2013.

Exhibit 1 sets forth the terms of this Program. The modifications appear below, with additions underscored and deletions overstruck.

CBOT business staff responsible for the Program and the CBOT legal department collectively reviewed the designated contract market core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). During the review, CBOT staff identified the following Core Principles as potentially being impacted: Prevention of Market Disruption, Execution of Transactions, Protection of Market Participants, and Compliance with Rules.

The Program and proposed modifications will not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA"). Nevertheless, the Exchange's market regulation staff will continue to monitor trading in the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, the Exchange has implemented systems to track Program participants' obligations under the Program to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. The incentives in the Program do not impact the Exchange's order execution. Chapter 4 of the Exchange Rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. These rules will apply to the Program.

CBOT certifies that the Program and proposed modifications comply with the CEA and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program and proposed modifications.

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

If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please contact Robert Lev at 312-930-3019 or via e-mail at <a href="mailto:robert.lev@cmegroup.com">robert.lev@cmegroup.com</a>, or contact me at 212-299-2200. Please reference our CBOT Submission No. 13-089 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen
Managing Director, Chief Regulatory Counsel

# EXHIBIT 1 CBOT AGRICULTURAL BACK MONTH INCENTIVE PROGRAM

# **Program Purpose**

The purpose of this Program is to incentivize Program participants to trade certain agricultural futures products on the CME Globex® Platform and via open outcry. The resulting increase in liquidity benefits all participant segments in the market.

# **Product Scope**

All back month (4+) CBOT Agricultural futures contracts that are traded on the CME Globex® Platform and via open outcry ("Products").

# **Eligible Participants**

There is no limit to the amount of participants that may participate in the Program. All CBOT Equity members and Lessees are eligible to participate.

## **Program Term**

Start date is December 27, 2011. End date is March 31, 2013. June 30, 2013.

## **Hours**

The incentives will apply to all trades made in the Products regardless of the execution time.

## **Program Incentives:**

Each participant shall be eligible for the following incentives for trading in the Products:

<u>Fee Discounts:</u> Participants will be eligible to receive fee discounts for the Products that are traded on Globex® and via open outcry so that the all-in fees charged (clearing fees combined with Globex® execution fees when applicable) per side will equal the corresponding fees as set forth in the following table:

	GLOBEX®			Open Outcry		
Contract months	All-in fee for Equity Members	All-in fee for Lessees	Cumulative Discount	All-in fee for Equity Members	All-in fee for Lessees	Cumulative Discount
1,2,3	20¢	35¢	0	15¢	30¢	0
4,5,6	16¢	31¢	4¢	11¢	26¢	4¢
7 and beyond	12¢	27¢	8¢	7¢	22¢	8¢

# **Monitoring and Termination of Status**

The Exchange shall monitor trading activity and participants' performance and shall retain the right to revoke Program participant status if it concludes from review that a Program participant no longer meets the eligibility requirements or fails to meet the obligations of the Program.