# CME Group

Christopher Bowen Managing Director and Chief Regulatory Counsel Legal Department

April 11, 2012

#### VIA E-MAIL

Mr. David Stawick Office of the Secretariat Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20581

## RE: Extension and Modifications to E-micro Gold Futures Market Making Program on Globex. COMEX Submission No. 12-111

Dear Mr. Stawick:

Commodity Exchange, Inc ("COMEX" or the "Exchange") hereby notifies the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("Commission") that it plans to extend the E-micro Gold Futures Market Making Program on Globex® ("Program"). The Exchange previously self-certified the terms and conditions for the Program in October, 2010. Modifications to the Program will become effective on May 1, 2012.

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

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

The Program's incentive structure as set forth in the Exhibit 1 below is such that it does not incentivize manipulative trading or market abuse and will not impact the Exchange's ability to perform its trade practice and market surveillance obligations under the CEA. COMEX's market regulation staff will continue to monitor all market participants that trade the Program's products to prevent manipulative trading and market abuse. Additionally, the Exchange has implemented systems to track Program participants' volume to ensure proper distribution of earned incentives. The incentives in the proposed Program do not impact the Exchange's order execution. Participants in the Program will be selected by Exchange staff using criteria as further stated in Exhibit 1. Chapter 4 of the Exchange rules includes prohibitions against fraudulent, non-competitive, unfair or abusive practices. All participants must execute a contractual agreement with the Exchange in which each participant will expressly agree to comply with and be subject to, applicable regulations and COMEX rules. The Program will be subject to the Exchange's record retention policies which comply with the CEA.

COMEX certifies that the Program, and all modifications set out in Exhibit 1 comply with the CEA and the regulations thereunder. There were no substantive opposing views to this Program.

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>

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If you require any additional information regarding this submission, please contact Robert Lev at 312-930-3019 or via e-mail at <u>robert.lev@cmegroup.com</u>, or contact me at 212-299-2200. Please reference our NYMEX Submission No. 12-111 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher Bowen Managing Director, Chief Regulatory Counsel

Attachments

# EXHIBIT 1

# E-micro Gold Futures Market Maker Program on Globex

# Program Purpose

The purpose of the Program and proposed modification is to improve liquidity in the E-micro Gold Futures contract traded on the CME Globex Platform ("Product"). A more liquid contract benefits all participants in the market.

# Product Scope

E-micro Gold Futures on Globex®.

# **Eligible Participants**

Up to ten (10) market makers may participate in the Program. Participants can be a CME, CBOT, NYMEX or COMEX trading firm. In determining whether or not a prospective market maker is selected to participate in the Program, COMEX staff may take into account a variety of factors including the prospective market maker's overall historical volume in other metals contracts traded on the CME Globex Platform, the prospective market maker's ability to commit to and maintain at least the required quoting obligations, and the prospective market maker's participation and performance acting as a market maker in other products traded on the CME GLOBEX Platform. COMEX may, from time to time, add or subtract from the aforementioned factors as it deems necessary.

# Program Term

Start date is October 4, 2010. End date is April 30, 2012. August 31, 2012.

## <u>Hours</u>

RTH (7:00am - 4:00pm Chicago Time).

## **Obligations**

## **Quoting Requirements:**

Participants must post a two-sided market for the first two active trading months of the MGC contract cycle months, or for spreads, for the first three active cycle months with a maximum bid/ask spread of 4 ticks for both futures and spreads and minimum volume quote per side for both futures and spread quotes of 10 x10.

<u>Program Incentives</u> Market Makers that comply with their contracted obligations shall receive the following incentives:

## Fee waivers.

Market Makers in the Program will have their Globex execution fees (including lessee fees if applicable) waived for trades in the Product made by the market maker through a designated account.

# Fee Credits.

A fee credit of 4.5 cents (\$0.045) will be applied to a participant's designated account for each E-micro Gold Futures contract side traded by the participant.

# 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 of the Program.