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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARIAT

April 29, 2008

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

RE: Amendments to CME Chapter 8F ("Over-the-Counter Derivative  
Clearing")  
Submission# 08-82

Dear Mr. Stawick:

Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. ("CME") hereby notifies the Commission of amendments to CME Chapter 8F. Changes were made to the existing definitions of OTC Clearing Member and OTC Derivatives and a new definition ("Close-Out Amount") was added. Additionally, Rule 8F13 ("Insolvency and Liquidation") was updated to clarify the options available to CME Clearing in the event an OTC Clearing Member or any other member carrying OTC derivatives defaults to CME Clearing. Finally, clean-up changes were made to harmonize the chapter.

The amended rules are attached with additions underlined and deletions lined out.

The Exchange certifies that these changes neither violate nor are inconsistent with any provision of the Commodity Exchange Act or of the rules thereunder.

If you require any additional information regarding this action, please do not hesitate to contact either Tim Doar at 312-930-3162 or [tim.doar@cmegroup.com](mailto:tim.doar@cmegroup.com) or me. Please reference our CME Submission #08-82 in any related correspondence.

Sincerely,

/s/ Stephen M. Szarmack  
Director and Associate General Counsel

6831

## Chapter 8-F Over-the-Counter Derivative Clearing

### 8F01. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter sets forth the rules governing clearing and settlement of ~~over-the-counter Derivative transactions~~ all products, instruments, contracts and contracts in Over-The-Counter Derivatives, including, but not limited to, ~~Swaps~~ swaps and forward rate agreements, that the Clearing House has designated as eligible for clearing. OTC Clearing Members are also subject to all applicable Rules in the CME Rulebook that apply to CME Clearing Members unless an exemption from such rule has been granted by staff or the Clearing House Risk Committee.

### 8F02. DEFINITIONS

#### OTC CLEARING MEMBER

~~An OTC Clearing Member is an entity that has been approved by CME to clear transactions in OTC Derivative products for its own account and on behalf of customers.~~ OTC Derivatives. An OTC Clearing Member shall be a Member who is not be entitled to also a CME Clearing Member may not clear products other than OTC Derivatives.

~~CME Clearing Members shall be afforded full rights and privileges to trade and clear for their own accounts, and on behalf of their customers, transactions in OTC Derivative products as an extension of their clearing member privileges. These rules OTC Derivatives. This chapter shall be applicable to CME Clearing Members and "OTC Clearing Member" shall be deemed to include CME Clearing Members in respect to transactions in OTC Derivative Products.~~

~~An OTC Clearing Member that is affiliated with a CME Clearing Member must have a cross-guarantee with the CME Clearing Member for its activity involving OTC Derivative products unless an exemption is provided by Exchange staff.~~ Derivatives.

#### OVER-THE-COUNTER ("OTC") DERIVATIVES

~~An agreement, contract or transaction in a commodity if the agreement, contract or transaction is not executed on a designated contract market, a derivatives execution transaction facility or an equivalently regulated foreign board of trade and the agreement, contract or transaction is exempted or excluded from certain provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act by Sections 2(e), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) or 5d thereof. OTC Derivatives approved for clearing by the Clearing House may include, but are not limited to, swaps and forward rate agreements.~~ Agreements, contracts, or transactions excluded from the Commodity Exchange Act by section 2(c), 2(d), 2(f), or 2(g), or sections 27 to 27f or exempted under section 2(h) or 6(c) of the CEA, or other over-the-counter derivative instruments (as defined in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Improvement Act of 1991, 12 U.S.C. § 4421(2)). OTC Derivatives shall not include FXMS Products.

#### CLOSE-OUT AMOUNT

The amount of losses and costs of the CME that are or would be incurred by the CME in replacing, or in providing the CME the economic equivalent of the material terms of the terminated OTC Derivatives (if positive), including (a) the payments and deliveries that would, absent termination, have been required after the termination date, (b) any option rights in respect of the terminated transactions, (c) all unpaid amounts due to the CME under the terminated transaction less all unpaid amounts due to the Bankrupt Member under the terminated transactions and (d) all related fees, costs and expenses incurred by the CME.

### 8F03. CLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS

~~All OTC Derivative transactions~~ Derivatives accepted for clearing by the Clearing House shall be deemed to be positions of the submitting OTC Clearing Member. Each position shall be assigned to and held in a proprietary account of such Clearing Member. All collateral deposited as performance bond to support positions in the proprietary account of an OTC Clearing Member and all variation margin payments made from such account shall be deemed the property of the OTC Clearing Member and shall be subject to the Clearing House's lien and security rights as described in Rule 8F08. Customers of OTC Clearing Members shall have no rights to positions, collateral or cash in the proprietary accounts of an OTC Clearing Member.

### 8F04. OTC CLEARING MEMBER OBLIGATIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS

OTC Clearing Members are subject to all relevant CME Rules and the Clearing House Manual unless

an exemption has been granted by staff or the Clearing House Risk Committee.

OTC Clearing Members must execute all agreements and documents required by the Clearing House.

The qualifications and requirements to become an OTC Clearing Member are set forth below. ~~The specific qualifications in this rule are not applicable to CME Clearing Members.~~ A CME Clearing Member is not required to fulfill these requirements.

1. An OTC Clearing Member must be in "good standing" under each applicable regulatory regime to which it is subject to at the time it applies for OTC clearing membership and it must maintain its good standing status while it is an OTC Clearing Member.
2. An OTC Clearing Member must be in compliance with all applicable regulatory capital requirements applicable to it, however, an OTC Clearing Member must maintain a minimum of \$50 million in capital if it only clears agricultural OTC Derivatives and \$300 million in capital if it clears financial (i.e., equity, interest rate, etc.) OTC Derivatives. Staff may provide grant an exemption to the minimum capital requirement for an OTC Clearing Member that is affiliated with a CME Clearing Member. An OTC Clearing Member that is an affiliate of a CME Clearing Member must be guaranteed by the CME Clearing Member with which it is affiliated unless an exemption is granted by Exchange staff.
3. An OTC Clearing Member applicant shall be engaged in or demonstrate immediate capacity to engage in the conduct of the business of an OTC Clearing Member.
4. An OTC Clearing Member shall maintain a membership equivalent deposit with CME of at least \$5 million in cash or collateral, which shall be valued in the sole discretion of the Clearing House, to assure payment performance of claims all obligations arising out of ~~any OTC Derivative transaction cleared~~ Derivatives submitted by it to the Clearing House.
5. An OTC Clearing Member shall submit to CME annual audited financial statements as well as all unaudited financial statements provided to its primary regulator within five days after such statements are provided to ~~their~~ its regulator. All financial statements shall be in the English language.
6. The books and records of an OTC Clearing Member regarding OTC ~~Derivative transaction~~ Derivatives cleared by the Clearing House and any CME activities in connection therewith shall be made promptly available for inspection upon request by CME ~~for the purpose of complying with any reporting or other requirement under applicable law or regulation and such books and records shall be subject to reasonable standards of confidentiality.~~

#### **8F05. SUBSTITUTION**

~~A transaction in an~~ An OTC Derivative ~~product~~ that is executed and submitted to the Clearing House in accordance with the rules governing such transaction shall be accepted by the Clearing House. The Clearing House shall substitute itself as the counterparty to each OTC Clearing Member party to the original transaction. The OTC Clearing Member shall be deemed the party to the transaction whether executed by that Clearing Member or by an authorized customer of that clearing member. After that substitution, there shall be two equal and offsetting over-the-counter transactions as follows: one between the buyer and the Clearing House, as seller; and an equal and offsetting transaction between the Clearing House and the seller.

#### **8F06. CLEARING MEMBER DEFAULT**

If an OTC Clearing Member fails promptly to discharge any obligation to the Clearing House, it shall be in default and the Clearing House may take all actions permitted by these Rules in the event of a default. ~~Without limitation, all~~ All of the assets and collateral of an OTC Clearing Member that are available to CME including, but not limited to, its security deposit and performance bond shall be applied by the Clearing House to discharge the obligation. The Clearing House ~~shall act reasonably under the circumstances may engage in any commercially reasonable transaction to minimize losses eliminate or reduce the risk created by the default and all obligations, costs and expenses incurred thereby shall be an obligation of a~~ the defaulting OTC Clearing Member to the Clearing House.

#### **8F07. SECURITY DEPOSIT**

~~CME Clearing Members' and~~ An OTC Clearing Members' security deposits may be used to cover losses

incurred by the Clearing House if a defaulting OTC Clearing Member's assets, including amounts available pursuant to any guarantee from an affiliated Clearing Member, available to the Clearing House are insufficient to cover such loss, regardless of the cause of default.

The detailed security deposit rules applicable to Clearing Members are set forth in Rule 816.

**8F08. LIEN ON COLLATERAL**

Each OTC Clearing Member hereby grants to CME a first priority and unencumbered lien against any cash, securities or other collateral deposited with the Clearing House by the OTC Clearing Member. OTC Clearing Members shall execute any documents required by CME to create and enforce such lien.

**8F09. CUSTOMER REGISTRATION**

All OTC ~~Derivative transactions~~Derivatives including, but not limited to, give-ups or transfers, that are cleared at CME shall be identified with an account number which identifies the originator of that transaction, specifying whether the transaction was executed as a proprietary transaction of the OTC Clearing Member or arises from a transaction by a customer. OTC Clearing Members shall register, on CME approved forms, all of the "ultimate" (or end) customer authorized to execute OTC ~~Derivative transactions~~Derivatives.

**8F10. RISK MANAGEMENT**

OTC Clearing Members will be subject to risk management and monitoring practices by CME relating to transactions submitted to the Clearing House. OTC Clearing Members shall promptly provide all information requested by Clearing House staff, including, without limitation, respecting risk, settlement, liquidity, and operational issues. OTC Clearing Members shall permit on-site risk reviews in accordance with CME Rules and subject to reasonable standards of confidentiality. OTC Clearing Members will also be subject to on-going oversight by the Clearing House Risk Committee regarding their activities related to CME Clearing House. All such inquiries shall be conducted in a manner consistent with oversight of CME Clearing Members and in accordance with reasonable standards of confidentiality.

**8F11. FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Subject to exceptions granted by CME staff regarding CME imposed financial requirements, OTC Clearing Members must comply with the following:
1. Maintenance of minimum capital requirements;
  2. Notification requirements to the Audit Department when a clearing member:
    - (i) Fails to maintain minimum capital requirements;
    - (ii) Fails to maintain current books and records; or
    - (iii) Changes its fiscal year.
- B. CME staff may prescribe additional accounting, reporting, and other financial and/or operational requirements and OTC Clearing Members must comply with such requirements. All OTC Clearing Members must provide immediate notice to the Audit Department of a failure to comply with the additional accounting, reporting, financial, and/or operational requirements.
- C. CME staff may grant exceptions to the financial requirements of Rule 970 ~~for good cause~~ if it is determined that such exceptions will not jeopardize the financial integrity of CME.

**8F12. SETTLEMENT**

An OTC Clearing Member must ~~possess~~demonstrate, at all times, the operational capabilities and infrastructure necessary to meet all of the delivery requirements applicable to the OTC Derivatives ~~traded/cleared~~ by such OTC Clearing Member.

**8F13. INSOLVENCY AND LIQUIDATION**

In the event of a bankruptcy or insolvency of an OTC Clearing Member or any other clearing member carrying OTC ~~Derivative products~~Derivatives, the default Rules and risk management procedures of CME shall apply, including, but not limited to, the provisions in Rule 975. ~~Upon such a clearing member~~Upon the bankruptcy or insolvency of such a clearing member, the

Clearing House will terminate, or offset, any open OTC Derivative contracts. Derivatives of the bankrupt or insolvent Clearing Member. The Clearing House will then replace the may mitigate or eliminate the risks incurred by it as a result of offsetting or terminating such open OTC Derivative portfolio Derivatives by any one or more of the following means: 1) replace all or a portion of the OTC Derivatives of the defaulting clearing member by entering into a business relationship a transactions with a solvent clearing member(s) to recreate the portfolio. Alternatively, the Clearing House may); 2) replace the OTC Derivative portfolio all or a portion of the OTC Derivatives of the defaulting clearing member by entering into OTC Derivative transactions Derivatives for its own account in the open market. In addition, the Clearing House may, in its discretion; and/or 3) enter into transactions OTC Derivatives to hedge the economic risk of an OTC Derivative portfolio by converting all or a portion of the portfolio to more liquid OTC Derivatives and/or futures contracts risks imposed on it as a result of offsetting or terminating such OTC Derivatives by any commercially reasonable means.

Any ~~close-out costs or fees~~ Close-out Amount incurred by the Clearing House in liquidating, transferring and/or establishing positions resulting from the clearing member's default will be deducted from the defaulting clearing member's collateral held by CME. In the event the collateral of the defaulting clearing member is not sufficient to satisfy the Close-Out costs or fees include, but are not limited to, daily mark-to-market charges, position replacement fees and any fees paid to a third party clearing member to reestablish a portfolio that was liquidated. In the event the collateral of the defaulting clearing member is not sufficient to satisfy the close-out costs Amount, the unsatisfied costs will be a claim by the Clearing House against the defaulting clearing member.

#### **8F14. MITIGATION OF LOSSES**

In the event of a failure of an OTC Clearing Member promptly to discharge any obligation to the Clearing House involving an ~~OTC Derivative product~~ Derivatives, all OTC Clearing Members shall work cooperatively with their counterparties and CME to mitigate any losses that may occur as a result of such failure.