

March 7, 2014

Ms. Melissa Jurgens Secretary Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, NW Washington, DC 20581

### RE: ICE Clear Credit Swap Submission Related to Mandatory Clearing Determinations

Dear Ms. Jurgens:

ICE Clear Credit LLC ("ICE Clear Credit") hereby submits (pursuant to the information requirements of Title 17 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1 §39.5) to the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC" or "Commission") the 5-year tenor in series 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20 of the iTraxx Europe Senior Financial sub-index, maturing on June 20, 2015, December 20, 2015, June 20, 2016, December 20, 2017, December 20, 2017, June 20, 2018 and December 20, 2018 respectively (the "Indices" or "Submitted Swaps") for a mandatory clearing determination.

## §39.5 Review of swaps for Commission determination on clearing requirement. (b) Swap submissions.

(b) Swap submissions.

(2) A derivatives clearing organization shall submit swaps to the Commission, to the extent reasonable and practicable to do so, by group, category, type, or class of swaps.

Table 1 below identifies the characteristics of the Submitted Swaps; specifically its type, region, rating and spread-level, as follows:

### Type

The Index comprises 25 financial corporate entities from the iTraxx Europe index referencing senior debt bonds.

### Region

All constituents of the Index are entities incorporated in Europe.

### <u>Rating</u>

All constituents of the Index have Investment Grade credit ratings.

### Spread Level

Not applicable. Applicable only when the reference entity selection criteria include spread-level.

Table 1

Index Classification				Index Name	Swap			
Туре	Region	Rating	Spread Level		Series	Maturity	(Tenor)	Currency
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	20	12/20/2018	(5Y)	Euro
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	19	6/20/2018	(5Y)	Euro
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	18	12/20/2017	(5Y)	Euro
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	17	6/20/2017	(5Y)	Euro
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	16	12/20/2016	(5Y)	Euro
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	15	6/20/2016	(5Y)	Euro
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	14	12/20/2015	(5Y)	Euro
Senior Financial Corporate Bonds	Europe	Investment Grade	n/a	iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	13	6/20/2015	(5Y)	Euro

## §39.5(b)(3)(i) Statement of Eligibility

"A statement that the derivatives clearing organization is eligible to accept the swap, or group, category, type, or class of swaps for clearing and describes the extent to which, if the Commission were to determine that the swap, or group, category, type, or class of swaps is required to be cleared, the derivatives clearing organization will be able to maintain compliance with section 5b(c)(2) of the Act."

ICE Clear Credit is a Derivatives Clearing Organization ("DCO") pursuant to Section 5b of the United States Commodity Exchange Act, as amended (the "CEA"), and as such is supervised by the CFTC. ICE Clear Credit became a DCO on July 16, 2011 pursuant to Section 725 of the Dodd-Frank Act (the "Conversion Date"), and since the Conversion Date, ICE Clear Credit has cleared commodity-based swaps similar to the Index submitted herein in compliance with section 5b(c)(2) of the CEA.

## §39.5(b)(3)(ii) Information Related to the Act's Swap Submission Review Requirements

"A statement that includes, but is not limited to, information that will assist the Commission in making a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the following factors:"

(A) "The existence of significant outstanding notional exposures, trading liquidity, and adequate pricing data."

Table 2 below identifies the dates when Series 13 through Series 20 were the on-the-run series. Please note that the "on-the-run index" changed during the 12-month sample period used to determine average trading activity. Trading activity is typically highest for the on-the-run series.

Table 3 below provides data describing the outstanding notional exposures, observed trading activity and adequacy of end-of-day pricing data for the Submitted Swaps.

### *Index, Series and Tenor*

Three columns identify the submitted swaps by index, series and tenor.

## Outstanding Positions among 19 ICE Clearing Entities

This column provides the gross notional amount of the positions in the Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation ("DTCC") Trade Information Warehouse ("TIW"), as-of January 6, 2013, among 19 legal entities that are Clearing Participants of ICE Clear Credit, and/or Clearing Members of ICE Clear Europe. Please note that this does not include all Clearing Members / Clearing Participants.

### Outstanding Positions among all Market Participants

This column provides the gross notional amount of the positions in the DTCC TIW between all market participants as of January 3, 2014.

### 12-Month Average of Weekly Trading Activity among all Market Participants

Three columns provide information related to the risk-transfer activity among all market participants. Two columns provide the average weekly risk-transfer activity from December 31, 2012 through December 27, 2013; one column provides the activity in terms of gross notional per week, and the other column provides the activity in terms of transactions per week. The third column provides the standard deviation of the number of transactions per week.

### **EOD Price Collection Summary**

ICE Clear Credit's rules require CPs to submit end-of-day pricing data for any swap for which they have a relevant cleared interest. ICC recently demonstrated the ability of CPs to provide end-of-day price discovery submissions for the Indices. During a two-week price collection period from February 10 to February 21, 2014, ICC asked all 16 providers of unique submission sets to ICE Clear Credit and/or ICE Clear Europe, to provide submissions for all Indices. This Table 3 entry consists of two columns summarizing the results of the two-week price collection period. The first column provides the number of unique sets of submissions received per day. The second column provides the average dispersion of submissions. For the purposes of this analysis, ICC defines dispersion as the difference between the highest and lowest submission mid-level after removing the submissions with the highest two and lowest two mid-levels from the sample. The table expresses dispersion as a percentage of the bid-offer width ("BOW") established each day for the given swap by ICE Clear Credit.

Table 2

Date Range	On-The-Run Series	1st Off-The-Run Series	2nd Off-The-Run Series	On-The-Run Business Days Within Sample Period <sup>1</sup>
9/20/2013 - 3/19/2014	20	19	18	69
3/20/2013 - 9/19/2013	19	18	17	127
9/20/2012 - 3/19/2013	18	17	16	56
3/20/2012 - 9/19/2012	17	16	15	0
9/20/2011 - 3/19/2012	16	15	14	0
3/21/2011 - 9/19/2011	15	14	13	0
9/20/2010 - 3/18/2011	14	13	12	0
3/22/2010 - 9/17/2010	13	12	11	0

Table 3

INDEX	SERIES	TENOR	OUTSTANDING POSITIONS AMONG 19 ICE CLEARING LEGAL ENTITIES <sup>2</sup>	OUTSTANDING POSITIONS AMONG ALL MARKET PARTICIPANTS <sup>3</sup>	12-MONTH <sup>4</sup> AVERAGE OF WEEKLY TRADING ACTIVITY AMONG ALL MARKET PARTICIPANTS		EOD PRICE COLLECTION SUMMARY <sup>5</sup>		
			Gross Notional (EUR millions)	Gross Notional (EUR millions)	Mean Gross Notional / Week (USD-Eq. millions)	Mean Transactions / Week	Std. Dev. of Transactions / Week	Unique Sets of Submissions per Day	Dispersion % of ICE BOW
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	20	5Y	30,852	109,962	14,524	384	154	16	43%
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	19	5Y	33,071	111,019	16,320	533	409	16	64%
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	18	5Y	17,848	61,288	7,123	216	349	16	65%
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	17	5Y	20,062	61,579	1,038	22	24	16	47%
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	16	5Y	15,786	48,518	803	5	6	16	66%
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	15	5Y	14,108	43,442	513	5	6	16	60%
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	14	5Y	10,686	30,969	181	2	3	16	26%
iTraxx Europe Senior Financial	13	5Y	12,454	30,139	180	2	2	16	33%

 $<sup>^{\</sup>mathrm{1}}$  December 31, 2012 through December 27, 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: DTCC data providing positions among 19 unique legal entities that are Clearing Participants of ICE Clear Credit and/or Clearing Members of ICE Clear Europe, as-of January 6, 2014 <sup>3</sup> Source: DTCC Weekly Stock and Volume Reports, Section 1, Table 7, January 3, 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Source: DTCC Weekly Stock and Volume Reports, Section 4, December 31, 2012 through December 27, 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Price collection period from February 10, 2014 through February 21, 2014

### (B) Clearinghouse Capabilities

"The availability of rule framework, capacity, operational expertise and resources, and credit support infrastructure to clear the contract on terms that are consistent with the material terms and trading conventions on which the contract is then traded."

Rule Framework – ICE Clear Credit maintains a comprehensive set of rules that are publicly available and may be viewed at <a href="https://www.theice.com/publicdocs/clear\_credit/ICE\_Clear\_Credit\_Rules.pdf">https://www.theice.com/publicdocs/clear\_credit/ICE\_Clear\_Credit\_Rules.pdf</a> and are listed herein as Exhibit A.

Capacity, Operational Expertise and Resources – ICE Clear Credit is the largest, leading, and most active credit default swap ("CDS") clearinghouse in the world as measured by (1) number and diversification of cleared CDS contracts, (2) volume, (3) open interest, (4) amount of default resources (margin collateral and guaranty fund deposits), and (5) number of active CDS Clearing Participants. Since its launch on March 9, 2009, ICE Clear Credit (f/k/a ICE Trust U.S. LLC) has cleared approximately 917,000 CDS transactions valued at approximately \$32.3 trillion dollars. ICE Clear Credit currently clears 110 CDS indices, 291 CDS corporate single names, and six sovereign single names. ICE Clear Credit currently maintains a cleared open interest valued at approximately \$905 billion. (additional ICE Clear Credit's statistics may be viewed at <a href="https://www.theice.com/clear\_credit.jhtml">www.theice.com/clear\_credit.jhtml</a>.)

The following financial institutions have been approved as ICE Clear Credit Clearing Participants: Bank of America, N.A., Barclays Bank PLC, Barclays Capital Inc., BNP Paribas, BNP Paribas Securities Corp., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Citibank N.A., Credit Suisse International, Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Deutsche Bank AG, London Branch, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co., Goldman Sachs International, HSBC Bank USA, N.A., HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, National Association, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Merrill Lynch International, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Incorporated, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC, Morgan Stanley Capital Services LLC, Nomura International PLC, Nomura Securities International, Inc., The Bank of Nova Scotia, The Royal Bank of Scotland plc, Société Générale, UBS AG, London Branch, UBS Limited and UBS Securities LLC.

Credit Support Infrastructure – As of December 31, 2013, ICE Clear Credit held approximately \$15.8 billion in margin collateral and approximately \$2.9 billion in guaranty fund deposits. On a daily basis, ICE Clear Credit processes millions of dollars in settlements.

### (C) Impact on Systemic Risk

"The effect on the mitigation of systemic risk, taking into account the size of the market for such contract and the resources of the derivatives clearing organization available to clear the contract."

The effect on mitigation of systemic risk from the clearing of the submitted swap is believed to be material for the following reasons:

- The swap listed for clearing is actively traded with significant pre-clearing outstanding positions.
- ICE Clear Credit's CPs are amongst the most active CDS market participants and continue to clear a significant portion of their clearing-eligible portfolio.
- The multi-lateral netting achieved through the clearing process has been significant historically and has substantially reduced the number and notional amount of outstanding bi-lateral positions.
- ICE Clear Credit has developed a robust risk management framework that has been extensively reviewed by regulators, industry participants and third-party experts.
- ICE Clear Credit's price discovery process is working successfully to provide reliable inputs to its risk models.

## (D) Competition

"The effect on competition, including appropriate fees and charges applied to clearing."

ICE Clear Credit's fee structure is appropriate and its margin and guaranty fund computations suitably account for the risk brought to the clearinghouse.

### (E) Insolvency Protection

"The existence of reasonable legal certainty in the event of the insolvency of the relevant derivatives clearing organization or one or more of its clearing members with regard to the treatment of customer and swap counterparty positions, funds, and property."

ICE Clear Credit believes that there is reasonable legal certainty in the event of the insolvency of ICE Clear Credit or a clearing participant of ICE Clear Credit with regard to the treatment of house and customer positions, funds and property in connection with the clearing of the submitted swap.

ICE Clear Credit's clearing participants consist of several types of institutions, principally futures commission merchants ("FCMs") (including FCMs that are also broker-dealers), U.S. banks and non-U.S. banks. In the event of a clearing participant insolvency, ICE Clear Credit is of the view, based on the advice of counsel in the relevant jurisdictions, that ICE Clear Credit would be permitted to exercise its rights to close out house positions and apply margin and other property of the defaulting clearing participant in accordance with its rules. With respect to customer positions, which must be carried through an FCM clearing participant, the submitted swap would constitute "commodity contracts" for purposes of the commodity broker liquidation provisions of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Under the Bankruptcy Code and the Commission's Part 190 regulations, ICE Clear Credit would have the ability to close out customer positions following the insolvency of the clearing participant and/or, in appropriate circumstances, facilitate a transfer of such positions to another, solvent clearing participant. Customer property provided in respect of submitted contracts would be subject to the protections for customer property under the Part 190 regulations for the cleared swaps account class. Under the Commission's Part 22 regulations for cleared swaps, ICE Clear Credit is required to segregate cleared swap customer property As such, customer property would be subject to distribution to cleared swap customers of the insolvent FCM in accordance with those regulations.

With respect to an ICE Clear Credit insolvency, ICE Clear Credit would itself be a commodity broker subject to the Bankruptcy Code and Part 190 regulations. ICE Clear Credit believes, based on the advice of counsel, that under the applicable provisions of those laws and regulations, ICE Clear Credit rules providing for the termination of all outstanding contracts and the application and/or return of remaining member and customer property to clearing participants would similarly be enforceable.

### §39.5(b)(3)(iii) Product Specifications

"Product specifications, including copies of any standardized legal documentation, generally accepted contract terms, standard practices for managing any life cycle events associated with the swap, and the extent to which the swap is electronically confirmable."

The submitted swap is electronically confirmable. Lifecycle events are processed by ICE Clear Credit and DTCC subject to determinations committee and industry groups. Product specifications are included below. Product specifications are the same as those for the existing iTraxx Europe Untranched contracts and are included below.

### 26F. iTraxx Europe.

The rules in this Subchapter 26F apply to the clearance of iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts.

### 26F-102. Definitions.

## **iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract**

A credit default swap in respect of any Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Index and governed by any iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement. An iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract is a CDS Contract for purposes of Chapter 20.

## iTraxx Europe Untranched Publisher

Markit Group Limited or its successor, or any successor sponsor of the Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Indexes it publishes.

### iTraxx Europe Untranched Rules

The rules set forth in Chapters 1 through 8 and 20 through 22, inclusive, as modified by the provisions of Subchapter 26E and this Subchapter 26F.

### **iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement**

Any one of the following:

- (a) The iTraxx Europe Untranched Standard Terms Supplement as published on November 23, 2009 together with the third paragraph of the form of confirmation published on November 23, 2009 with respect to such standard terms supplement (or any relevant electronic equivalent thereof).
- (b) Such other supplement as may be specified in relation to any Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Index by ICE Clear Credit, including any successor to any of the documents listed in subparagraphs (a) or (b) of this definition.

For purposes of each iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract, a reference in the iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement to an "iTraxx Master Transaction" shall be deemed a reference to an iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract.

## **Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Index**

Each particular series and version of an iTraxx Europe index or sub-index, as published by the iTraxx Europe Untranched Publisher, determined by ICE Clear Credit to be eligible and included in the List of Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Indexes.

## **List of Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Indexes**

The list of Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Indexes, maintained, updated and published by the Board or its designee on the ICE Clear Credit website, specifying the following information with respect to each index:

- (a) the name and series, including any applicable sub-index designation;
- (b) the "Effective Date";
- (c) one or more eligible "Scheduled Termination Dates" and the applicable "Fixed Rate" for each such date:
- (d) the Relevant iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement;
- (e) the versions (and related annex dates) eligible for clearing; and
- (f) any inactive versions (and related annex dates), i.e., those that have been determined to be fungible with later versions.

## **Relevant iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement**

With respect to an Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Index, the iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement specified for such Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Index in the List of Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Indexes.

### 26F-309. Acceptance of iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts by ICE Clear Credit.

- (a) A CDS Participant shall make all reasonable efforts to not submit a Trade for clearance as a iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract, and any such Trade shall not be a Conforming Trade, if the Novation Time would be:
  - (i) at a time when the Fallback Settlement Method is applicable to a Credit Event with respect to such iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract; or
  - (ii) at or after the close of business on the calendar day following the Auction Final Price Determination Date for a Credit Event with respect to such iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract:

(such time with respect to any iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract, the "Clearance Cut-off Time"); provided that ICE Clear Credit may, by written notice to all CDS Participants following consultation with the Risk Committee, designate a time other than the time determined pursuant to clauses (i) or (ii) above as the Clearance Cut-off Time with respect to any iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract. CDS Participants may again submit Trades for clearance as such iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract, and such Trades shall again be Conforming Trades, following receipt of notice from ICE Clear Credit that a Fungibility Date (as defined in Rule 26F-316) has occurred with respect to such iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract.

(b) A CDS Participant shall as soon as reasonably practicable notify ICE Clear Credit if any Trade it has submitted for clearance was not at the time of submission, or ceases to be prior to the Novation Time, a Conforming Trade.

## 26F-315. Terms of the Cleared iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract.

- (a) Any capitalized term used in this Subchapter 26F but not defined in these iTraxx Europe Untranched Rules shall have the meaning provided in the Relevant iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement.
- (b) For purposes of the CDS Committee Rules, the CDS Region for each iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract is the European Region.
- (c) Each iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract will be governed by the Relevant iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement, as modified by these iTraxx Europe Untranched Rules. In the event of any inconsistency between the Relevant iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement or the Confirmation (including in electronic form) for a iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract and these iTraxx Europe Untranched Rules, these iTraxx Europe Untranched Rules will govern.

# 26F-316. Updating Index Version of Fungible Contracts After a Credit Event or a Succession Event; Updating Relevant Untranched Standard Terms Supplement.

- (a) Where the iTraxx Europe Untranched Publisher of an Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Index publishes one or more subsequent versions or annexes of the relevant series following a Credit Event or a Succession Event with respect to a Reference Entity included in such series, and the Board or its designee determines that iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the earlier version or annex of such series are fungible with iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing a later version or annex of such series that is an Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Index and so notifies CDS Participants, iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the earlier version or annex of such series shall become iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing such later version or annex of such series on the date determined by the Board or its designee (the "Fungibility Date"). Any iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the earlier version or annex of such series submitted for clearing after the related Fungibility Date shall, upon acceptance for clearing, become a iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract referencing the latest version or annex of such series that the Board or its designee has determined is fungible with such earlier version or annex.
- Where a new version of the iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement (a "New Standard Terms") is published as of a date that is subsequent to the date of the version that is specified as the Relevant iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement for any iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract(s) (the "Existing Standard Terms"), and the Board or its designee determines that iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the Existing Standard Terms are fungible with iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the New Standard Terms, and so notifies CDS Participants, iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the Existing Standard Terms shall become iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the New Standard Terms on the date determined by the Board or its designee (the "Standard Terms Update Date" and each prior iTraxx Europe Untranched Terms Supplement subject to such determination, a "Superseded Standard Terms"). Any Trade referencing a Superseded Standard Terms submitted for clearing as a iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract shall, upon acceptance for clearing, become a iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract referencing the New Standard Terms.
- (c) The Board or its designee may determine a different Fungibility Date or Standard Terms Update Date applicable to individual iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts or groups of iTraxx Europe

Untranched Contracts or may determine a Fungibility Date or Standard Terms Update Date applicable to all iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts referencing the earlier version or annex of a series described in clauses (a) or (b) of this Rule, as it deems appropriate.

## 26F-317. Terms of iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts.

With respect to each iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract, the following terms will apply:

- (a) Section 3.2(c)(i) of the Credit Derivatives Definitions is hereby amended by replacing the "or" at the end of subparagraph (B) thereof with an "and" and adding the following as a new subparagraph (C);
  - "(C) the tenth calendar day after the date of the actual decision by the relevant Regional CDS Committee (or Dispute Resolver) to Resolve (i.e., determined without regard to any Effectiveness Convention or any time of effectiveness specified in a Presented Position) that a Credit Event has occurred for which there is Publicly Available Information, as described in CDS Committee Rule 2101-02(a)(iii), with respect to such iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts; or".
- (b) For the purposes of any determination as to whether a Credit Event has occurred in respect of a Reference Entity or an Obligation thereof:
  - (i) at any time up to but excluding June 20, 2009; or
  - (ii) if (A) a Credit Event Resolution Request Date occurs or (B) a Credit Event Notice and a Notice of Publicly Available Information are deemed delivered pursuant to Rule 2101-02(f) by a Notifying Party, in either case before June 20, 2009,

the Credit Event Backstop Date with respect to such determination shall be deemed to be the Effective Date.

- (c) For the purposes of any determination as to whether a Succession Event has occurred in respect of a Reference Entity:
  - (i) at any time up to but excluding June 20, 2009; or
  - (ii) if (A) a Succession Event Resolution Request Date occurs or (B) a Succession Event Notice is deemed delivered pursuant to Rule 2101-02(f), in either case before June 20, 2009,

the Succession Event Backstop Date with respect to such Reference Entity shall be deemed to be the Effective Date.

(d) Except for purposes of Rule 26F-317(b) and Section 1.23 of the Credit Derivatives Definitions, a Credit Event Notice and Notice of Publicly Available Information with respect to a iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract for a Credit Event other than Restructuring will be deemed to have been effectively delivered by the Notifying Party on the relevant Event Determination Date determined under the CDS Committee Rules only when the Resolution is effective, under the CDS Committee Rules, that a Credit Event other than Restructuring has occurred for which there is Publicly Available Information, as described in CDS Committee Rule 2101-02(a)(iii), with respect to such iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in

the Credit Derivatives Definitions, any delivery of a Credit Event Notice and/or Notice of Publicly Available Information by a CDS Participant (other than (i) the deemed delivery as provided in this Rule 26F-317(d) or (ii) notices with respect to a Restructuring Credit Event as provided in the CDS Restructuring Rules) shall not be valid.

- (e) Section 1.8(a)(ii)(A)(I)(3)(y) of the Credit Derivatives Definitions is hereby modified by replacing the term "Auction Final Price Determination Date" with the phrase "date that is one Relevant City Business Day prior to the Auction Settlement Date".
  - (ii) Section 1.30 of the Credit Derivatives Definitions is hereby modified by replacing the term "Auction Final Price Determination Date" in clause (ii) of the last sentence thereof with the phrase "date that is one Relevant City Business Day prior to the Auction Settlement Date".
- (f) The Settlement Method for particular iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts will be Auction Settlement and the Fallback Settlement Method will be Physical Settlement in accordance with the CDS Physical Settlement Rules.
- (g) With respect to iTraxx Europe Untranched Contracts for which it is Resolved by the Regional CDS Committee (or applicable Dispute Resolver) or Credit Derivatives Determinations Committee that a Credit Event has occurred for which there is Publicly Available Information, as described in CDS Committee Rule 2101-02(a)(iii) or the DC Rules, as applicable, Buyer may not deliver a Notice of Physical Settlement until after it is determined that the method of settlement for a particular Credit Event is the Fallback Settlement Method due to the occurrence of one of the events in Section 12.1 of the Credit Derivatives Definitions and as further provided in the CDS Physical Settlement Rules. For the avoidance of doubt, the effectiveness of any Notice of Physical Settlement and obligations relating thereto are subject to the suspension and finality provisions of Sections 6.5 and 9.1(c)(iii) of the Credit Derivatives Definitions.
- (h) Section 7.3(b)(ii) of the iTraxx Europe Untranched Standard Terms Supplement is amended by adding at the end, immediately after "(such new transaction, a 'New Trade')" the following: "and except that the Reference Obligation for purposes of the New Trade will be the Reference Obligation for the Restructured Entity in question as specified by ICE Clear Credit following consultation with the CDS Risk Committee".
- (i) The following terms will apply to each iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract:
  - (i) The "Agreement" is the Participant Agreement between the relevant CDS Participant and ICE Clear Credit.
  - (ii) The "Source of Relevant Annex" is "Publisher".
  - (iii) The "Effective Date" is the date specified in the List of Eligible iTraxx Europe Indexes for the relevant Index.
  - (iv) The "Calculation Agent" is ICE Clear Credit, except as provided in the CDS Committee Rules.
  - (v) There are no "Excluded Reference Entities".

- (vi) "De Minimis Cash Settlement" under Section 7.7 of the iTraxx Europe Untranched Standard Terms Supplement is not applicable.
- (iii) The "Fixed Rate" is the rate specified in the List of Eligible iTraxx Europe Indexes for the relevant Index and Scheduled Termination Date.
- (iv) The "Initial Payment Date" will be the date that is the first Business Day immediately following the Trade Date; provided that with respect to a iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract that is accepted for clearing pursuant to Rule 309 after the Trade Date thereof, the "Initial Payment Date" will be the date that is the first Business Day following the date as of which such iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract is accepted for clearing pursuant to Rule 309.
- (j) For each iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract, the following terms will be determined according to the particular iTraxx Europe Untranched Contract submitted for clearing:
  - (i) Which of the Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Indexes is the "Index".
  - (ii) The "Annex Date".
  - (iii) The "Trade Date".
  - (iv) Which of the eligible Scheduled Termination Dates specified for the Index in the List of Eligible iTraxx Europe Untranched Indexes is the "Scheduled Termination Date".
  - (v) The "Original Notional Amount".
  - (vi) The "Floating Rate Payer".
  - (vii) The "Fixed Rate Payer".
  - (viii) The "Initial Payment Payer".
  - (ix) The "Initial Payment Amount".

### 26E. CDS Restructuring Rules.

The rules in this Subchapter 26E apply to the clearance of Contracts for which Restructuring is a Credit Event.

### 26E-102 Definitions

## **Matched CDS Buyer**

The Buyer in a Matched Restructuring Pair.

## **Matched CDS Buyer Contract**

A CDS Contract (or part thereof) between a Matched CDS Buyer for a Matched Restructuring Pair and ICE Clear Credit having a Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount equal to the MP Amount relating to that Matched Restructuring Pair.

### Matched CDS Contract

A Matched CDS Seller Contract or a Matched CDS Buyer Contract.

### Matched CDS Seller

The Seller in a Matched Restructuring Pair.

### **Matched CDS Seller Contract**

A CDS Contract (or part thereof) between a Matched CDS Seller for a Matched Restructuring Pair and ICE Clear Credit having a Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount equal to the MP Amount relating to that Matched Restructuring Pair.

## **Matched Restructuring Pair**

Following a CDS Contract becoming a Restructuring CDS Contract pursuant to these Rules, a matched pair of a Buyer and a Seller under such Restructuring CDS Contract with an allocated Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount, as determined by ICE Clear Credit in accordance with the CDS Restructuring Rules.

## **MP Amount**

An amount equal to the portion of a Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount in respect of which ICE Clear Credit matches a Matched Restructuring Pair.

## **Regional CDS Committee Restructuring Announcement**

The announcement by ICE Clear Credit that a Regional CDS Committee (or Dispute Resolver) has Resolved that an event that constitutes a Restructuring has occurred with respect to one or more CDS Contracts.

### **Restructuring CDS Contract**

A CDS Contract (or, in respect of a CDS Contract that relates to an index, a CDS Contract which is a Component Transaction (including a New Trade)) that is subject to a Restructuring Credit Event Announcement; provided that if, after such announcement has been made, a further DC Credit Event Announcement or Regional CDS Committee Announcement is made of the occurrence of a Credit Event other than Restructuring in relation to the Reference Entity, such CDS Contract, to the extent that it has not become a Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract, will cease to be a Restructuring CDS Contract and provided further that any Restructuring CDS Contract, to the extent that it is not a Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract, in respect of which an effective Restructuring Credit Event Notice can no longer be delivered will cease to be a Restructuring CDS Contract and will thereafter be a CDS Contract subject to the provisions of these Rules.

### **Restructuring Credit Event Announcement**

A DC Credit Event Announcement in respect of Restructuring Credit Event or a Regional CDS Committee Restructuring Announcement.

## **Restructuring Reference Entity**

The Reference Entity in respect of which a DC Credit Event Announcement or Regional CDS Committee Restructuring Announcement has been made in respect of a Restructuring Credit Event.

## **Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract**

An Open CDS Position (or portion thereof) in a Restructuring CDS Contract that is the subject of an effective Restructuring Credit Event Notice pursuant to the CDS Restructuring Rules; provided that, where permitted under Section 3.9 of the Credit Derivatives Definitions, if such Restructuring Credit Event Notice specifies an Exercise Amount that is less than the Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount of the Restructuring CDS Contract, such Restructuring CDS Contract shall be construed, pursuant to Section 3.9 of the Credit Derivatives Definitions, as if the parties had entered into two Restructuring CDS Contracts, one of which will constitute the Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract and has a Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount equal to the Exercise Amount and the other of which has a Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount equal to the Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount outstanding immediately prior to the delivery of the Restructuring Credit Event Notice minus the Exercise Amount.

## 26E-103 Allocation of Matched Restructuring Pairs

- (a) With respect to a Restructuring CDS Contract, following the occurrence of the DC Credit Event Announcement or Regional CDS Committee Restructuring Announcement:
  - (i) ICE Clear Credit will match each Seller with one or more Buyers each of which is party to a Restructuring CDS Contract of the same type (such Restructuring CDS Contracts thereby becoming Matched CDS Contracts and each matched CDS Seller and CDS Buyer becoming a Matched Restructuring Pair), such that the Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount related to each Matched CDS Seller under each Matched CDS Contract is fully allocated to one or more CDS Buyers under Matched CDS Contracts of the same type as the Matched CDS Seller Contract; and
  - (ii) ICE Clear Credit will notify each relevant CDS Buyer and CDS Seller of the Matched CDS Contracts, Matched CDS Buyer and Matched CDS Seller (such notice, for purposes of this Rule, the "Matched Restructuring Pair Notice") and the associated MP Amount.
- (b) If ICE Clear Credit has delivered a Matched Restructuring Pair Notice that specifies a MP Amount that is less than the outstanding Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount applicable to a Matched CDS Contract to which such Matched Restructuring Pair Notice relates, the relevant rights and obligations of ICE Clear Credit and the relevant CDS Participant pursuant to the Matched CDS Contract shall, with effect from the date such Matched Restructuring Pair Notice is effective, be construed as if ICE Clear Credit and the relevant CDS Participant have entered into two Restructuring CDS Contracts, one of which has a Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount equal to the MP Amount and the other of which has a Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount equal to the Floating Rate Payer Calculation Amount outstanding immediately prior to delivery of such Matched Restructuring Pair Notice minus the MP Amount.
- (c) With respect to a Triggered Restructuring CDS contract to which Physical Settlement applies (including as a result of a fallback settlement) under Chapter 22 of the Rules, the related Matched Restructuring Pair will also constitute a Matched Delivery Pair for purposes of Chapter 22 of the Rules.

## 26E-104 Matched Restructuring Pairs: Designations and Notices

- (a) In respect of each Matched CDS Buyer Contract which is the subject of a Matched Restructuring Pair, ICE Clear Credit, pursuant to Section 9.2(c)(iv) of the Credit Derivatives Definitions (as may be modified in the ICE Clear Credit Procedures), as designator, shall be deemed to have designated the Matched CDS Seller in such Matched Restructuring Pair as its designee:
  - (i) to receive on its behalf from the Matched CDS Buyer in the Matched Restructuring Pair, Credit Event Notices and, where applicable, Notices to Exercise Movement Option, in relation to any Restructuring CDS Contract or Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract, as the case may be:
  - (ii) to deliver on its behalf to the Matched CDS Buyer in the Matched Restructuring Pair Credit Event Notices and, where applicable, Notices to Exercise Movement Option, in relation to any Restructuring CDS Contract or Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract, as the case may be.
- (b) In respect of each Matched CDS Seller Contract which is the subject of a Matched Restructuring Pair, ICE Clear Credit, pursuant to Section 9.2(c)(iv) of the Credit Derivatives Definitions (as may be modified in the ICE Clear Credit Procedures), as designator, shall be deemed to have designated the Matched CDS Buyer in such Matched Restructuring Pair as its designee:
  - (i) to deliver on its behalf to the Matched CDS Seller in the Matched Restructuring Pair, Credit Event Notices and, where applicable, Notices to Exercise Movement Option, in relation to any Restructuring CDS Contract or Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract, as the case may be;
  - (ii) to receive on its behalf from the Matched CDS Seller in the Matched Restructuring Pair Credit Event Notices and, where applicable, Notices to Exercise Movement Option, in relation to any Restructuring CDS Contract or Triggered Restructuring CDS Contract, as the case may be;
- (c) In relation to each Matched Restructuring Pair:
  - (i) the exercise of any rights by the Matched CDS Buyer against ICE Clear Credit under a Matched CDS Buyer Contract shall be deemed to constitute the exercise of equal and simultaneous rights by ICE Clear Credit against the Matched CDS Seller under the Matched CDS Seller Contract in the relevant Matched Restructuring Pair;
  - (ii) the exercise of any rights of the Matched CDS Seller against ICE Clear Credit under a Matched CDS Seller Contract shall be deemed to constitute the exercise of equal and simultaneous rights by ICE Clear Credit against the Matched CDS Buyer under the Matched CDS Buyer Contract in the relevant Matched Restructuring Pair;
  - (iii) where the Matched CDS Buyer validly delivers or serves any notice to the Matched CDS Seller in accordance with the Rules, such notice shall be effective with respect to both the Matched CDS Buyer Contract and the Matched CDS Seller Contract; and
  - (iv) where the Matched CDS Seller validly delivers or serves any notice to the Matched CDS Buyer in accordance with the Rules, such notice shall be effective with respect to both the Matched CDS Buyer Contract and the Matched CDS Seller Contract.
- (d) Following delivery by a Matched CDS Buyer or Matched CDS Seller of any notice of a nature referred to in subsection (a) or (b) (any such notice, a "MP Notice"), the CDS Participant that delivered such MP Notice shall, at the times and in the circumstances specified by ICE Clear Credit, deliver a written copy of such MP Notice to ICE Clear Credit. ICE Clear Credit will provide a copy of the copy of each MP Notice received by it to both CDS Participants in each Matched Restructuring Pair under which an MP Notice has been served or appears to have

been served. Any CDS Participant in a Matched Restructuring Pair which disputes any MP Notice, or which considers that an MP Notice additional to those copied to it by ICE Clear Credit has been served, must inform ICE Clear Credit. Unless ICE Clear Credit receives any notice disputing an MP Notice, ICE Clear Credit will update its and Deriv/SERV's records and will require the relevant CDS Participants to update Deriv/SERV's records on the basis of the MP Notices (or on the basis of equivalent information) notified by ICE Clear Credit to the Matched CDS Buyer and Matched CDS Seller in the Matched Restructuring Pair. ICE Clear Credit shall not be obliged to act upon any disputed MP Notice until the relevant dispute has been resolved.

- (e) The Matched CDS Buyer and Matched CDS Seller in each Matched Restructuring Pair shall each make such payments and deliveries and deliver such notices in relation to settlement to one another and to ICE Clear Credit as are required pursuant to a Matched CDS Contract, these Rules or Applicable Laws.
- (f) ICE Clear Credit may establish electronic or manual processes for the delivery and receipt of MP Notices, on such terms as ICE Clear Credit shall specify.
- (g) Any purported delivery of a Notice to Exercise Movement Option outside of the permitted triggering period under the applicable contract terms shall not amount to valid delivery of that notice and shall be disregarded by ICE Clear Credit and Participants in relation to any Restructuring CDS Contract.

## 26E-105 Separation of Matched Restructuring Pairs

- (a) If:-
- (i) a Restructuring Credit Event Announcement has been made; and
- (ii) a subsequent announcement by the relevant decision body has been made that the relevant Restructuring Credit Event did not in fact occur,

### then:

- (I) to the extent that ICE Clear Credit has not by then matched Sellers with Buyers to form Matched Restructuring Pairs in relation to the relevant CDS Contracts, pursuant to Rule 26E-103, it shall not do so; and
- (II) to the extent that ICE Clear Credit has by then matched Sellers with Buyers to form Matched Restructuring Pairs in relation to the relevant CDS Contracts pursuant to Rule 26E-103, ICE Clear Credit shall:
- (A) with respect to relevant CDS Contracts to which Auction Settlement is applicable and where the subsequent resolution of the relevant decision body in (ii) above occurs prior to the Auction Final Price Determination Date, reverse such matching; and
- (B) with respect to relevant CDS Contracts to which the Fallback Settlement Method is applicable, to the extent that ICE Clear Credit has by then matched CDS Sellers with CDS Buyers to form Matched Restructuring Pairs in relation to the relevant CDS Contracts pursuant to Rule 26E-103, ICE Clear Credit shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, give a Matching Reversal Notice to the Seller and Buyer forming each affected Matched Restructuring Pair of the proposal to reverse such matching and shall thereafter reverse such matching, provided that ICE Clear Credit will not reverse any matching to the extent that the Matched CDS Buyer or Matched CDS Seller has, not later than one Business Day after the Matching Reversal Notice, given notice to ICE Clear Credit that the relevant Matched Restructuring Pair have settled the relevant Matched CDS Contracts (or part thereof).

- (b) In relation to any Matched CDS Contract for which the matching of the related Matched Restructuring Pair is reversed pursuant to subsection (a) of this Rule, ICE Clear Credit will recalculate Margin on the basis that such CDS Contract is no longer a Matched CDS Contract and will adjust the Margin required by it accordingly.
- (c) In relation to any Matched CDS Contract for which the matching of the related Matched Restructuring Pair is reversed pursuant to subsection (a) of this Rule, any notices sent by the Matched CDS Buyer or the Matched CDS Seller to the other for the purposes or in connection with the settlement of the relevant Matched CDS Contracts will be deemed not to have been delivered and will be ineffective.
- (d) For the avoidance of doubt, reversal of a Matched CDS Contract means that the relevant CDS Participants together with ICE Clear Credit will restore the CDS Contracts that existed before the initial Credit Event determination occurred including by amending records in Deriv/SERV.

## §39.5(b)(3)(iv) Participant Eligibility

"Participant eligibility standards, if different from the derivatives clearing organization's general participant eligibility standards."

The participant eligibility standards related to the Index are not different from ICE Clear Credit's general participant eligibility standards.

### $\S39.5(b)(3)(v)$ *Price Discovery*

"Pricing sources, models, and procedures, demonstrating an ability to obtain sufficient price data to measure credit exposures in a timely and accurate manner, including any agreements with clearing members to provide price data and copies of executed agreements with third-party price vendors, and information about any price reference index used, such as the name of the index, the source that calculates it, the methodology used to calculate the price reference index and how often it is calculated, and when and where it is published publicly."

See the ICE Clear Credit End-of-Day Price Discovery Policies and Procedures attached hereto as Confidential Exhibit B.

See Markit Data and Settlement Price Data License Agreement dated March 6, 2009, previously submitted as Confidential Exhibit C on March 27, 2012.

See Amendment to Markit Data and Settlement Price Data License Agreement dated December 17, 2010, previously submitted as Confidential Exhibit D on March 27, 2012.

### §39.5(b)(3)(vi) Risk Management

"Risk management procedures, including measurement and monitoring of credit exposures, initial and variation margin methodology, methodologies for stress testing and back testing, settlement procedures, and default management procedures."

See the ICE Clear Credit Risk Management Framework attached hereto as Confidential Exhibit E.

See the ICE Clear Credit Risk Management Backtesting Framework attached hereto as Confidential Exhibit F.

See the ICE Clear Credit Risk Management Stress Testing Framework attached hereto as Confidential Exhibit G.

### §39.5(b)(3)(vii) Rules, Policies and Procedures

ICE Clear Credit maintains a comprehensive set of rules that are publicly available and may be viewed at <a href="https://www.theice.com/publicdocs/clear-credit/ICE">https://www.theice.com/publicdocs/clear-credit/ICE</a> Clear Credit Rules.pdf and are listed herein as Exhibit A.

See the ICE Clear Credit Risk Management Framework attached hereto as Confidential Exhibit E.

### §39.5(b)(3)(viii) Communication to Members Regarding this Submission

"A description of the manner in which the derivatives clearing organization has provided notice of the submission to its members and a summary of any views on the submission expressed by the members (a copy of the notice to members shall be included with the submission."

ICE Clear Credit posted a copy of this submission (absent any confidential exhibits) on its public website on March 10, 2014. Written comments relating to the submission have not been solicited or received. ICE Clear Credit will notify the CFTC of any written comments received by ICE Clear Credit.

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Pursuant to applicable law, ICE Clear Credit respectfully requests confidential treatment of the confidential exhibits attached as part of this submission and any other information or documents which may at any time be submitted in connection with this submission and which may be marked "Confidential" or for which confidential treatment may be requested.

Confidential treatment of the confidential exhibits attached as part of this submission and any subsequent related documents is justified under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552, et seq. and the Rules Regarding Availability of Information, 12 C.F.R. § 261.15 (2006). The confidential exhibits attached as part of this submission contain confidential business and commercial information regarding (together with confidential intellectual property) related to ICE Clear Credit's clearing facility for credit default swaps and ICE Clear Credit's clearing participants, the disclosure of which could have a material adverse effect on, and cause injury to, the operations and competitive position of ICE Clear Credit and its clearing participants. We believe that the confidential exhibits are entitled to protection pursuant to exemptions (b)(4) and (b)(8) of the Freedom of

Information Act. In particular, the confidential exhibits provide information that is useful to potential competitors and would be competitively harmful to ICE Clear Credit and its clearing participants if disclosed to the public.

In the event that a determination is made to release any confidential portion of this submission, we respectfully request an opportunity to discuss or to revise as appropriate prior to such release.

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If you should have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me at 312-836-6742.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Nield

General Counsel

cc: Brian O'Keefe, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Tad Polley, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission Phyllis Dietz, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Stan Ivanov, ICE Clear Credit LLC Donald Sternard, ICE Clear Credit LLC Ian Springle, ICE Clear Credit LLC Michelle Weiler, ICE Clear Credit LLC

Enc: Exhibit A – ICE Clear Credit Rules available at:

https://www.theice.com/publicdocs/clear\_credit/ICE\_Clear\_Credit\_Rules.pdf

Confidential Exhibit B – ICE Clear Credit End-of-Day Price Discovery Policies and Procedures

Confidential Exhibit E – ICE Clear Credit Risk Management Framework

Confidential Exhibit F – ICE Clear Credit Risk Management Backtesting Framework Confidential Exhibit G – ICE Clear Credit Risk Management Stress Testing Framework