

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-65636; File No. SR-CME-2011-14)

October 26, 2011

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Performance Bond Regime Applicable to Certain Cleared Only OTC FX Swaps

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on October 18, 2011, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. (“CME”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change described in Items I and II below, which items have been prepared primarily by CME. The Commission is publishing this Notice and Order to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons and to approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

CME proposes to amend certain rules related to its existing Cleared OTC US Dollar/Chilean Peso (“USD/CLP”) foreign currency (“FX”) contracts. The USD/CLP FX contracts are comprised of spot, forward and swap transactions, and are also referred to as non-deliverable forwards (“NDFs”). The proposed rule changes would change the performance bond regime that applies to CME’s USD/CLP NDF from a “collateralization mark-to-market” to a “cash mark-to-market” performance bond method.

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the CME’s Web site at <http://www.cmegroup.com>, at the principal office of CME, and at the Commission’s Public

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

Reference Room.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, CME included statements concerning the purpose and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item III below. CME has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

CME currently offers USD/CLP NDFs as a cleared-only product. These USD/CLP NDFs feature a "collateralization mark to market" performance bond regime. CME desires to adopt a new performance bond regime that applies to the USD/CLP NDF product. The new requirements would instead feature a "cash mark to market" performance bond method. This change is intended to bring the USD/CLP NDF product in line with CME's anticipated launch of a suite of new OTC FX cleared-only currency pairs (which will be included as part of a separate regulatory filing³). These new products will collectively feature the "cash mark to market" methodology when they are eventually offered for clearing, with the first in a phased roll-out of the new FX pairs to be offered currently planned for October 31, 2011.

CME Clearing has deployed the SPAN margining system to establish performance bond or "margin" requirements for OTC USD/CLP NDFs. Initial performance bond requirements are established at levels that are consistent with observed levels of volatility in the particular currency pairing and generally aligned with initial margin levels applied to current CME FX

³ See Exchange Act Release No. 34-65637 (Oct. 26, 2011).

futures and option contracts, where applicable, which is not the current case with the cleared OTC CLP/CLP products, where there is no USD/CLP futures contract. These risk components of the clearing system are unchanged with implementation of “cash mark to market” rather than “collateralization mark to market”. However, it should be noted that the administration of the new margin regime will require a daily mark-to-market on a cash basis, similar to traded FX futures. Variation margins may be satisfied with the posting of appropriate amounts of collateral, where CME Clearing collects and pays in cash between the counterparties each day.

CME Clearing will accept as collateral cash or any other instruments currently designated as approved collateral for posting for performance bonds. In order to calculate variation requirements, settlement prices are established for each contract and for each delivery date referencing data collected from a variety of market sources.

Pursuant to Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) regulations, the changes in the applicable performance bond regime have been interpreted by CME as being subject to CFTC Regulation 40.6(d), requiring a self certification filing to the CFTC, although no change to text of the CME rulebook is required. As such, the changes that are the subject of this filing and that are necessary to establish the new “cash mark to market” performance bond regime are changes to CME operational procedures only. CME notes that it has already certified the proposed changes that are the subject of this filing to its primary regulator, the CFTC.

CME believes the proposed changes are consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act including Section 17A of the Exchange Act because they involve clearing of swaps and thus relate solely to the CME’s swaps clearing activities pursuant to its registration as a derivatives clearing organization under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) and do not significantly affect any securities clearing operations of the clearing agency or any related rights or

obligations of the clearing agency or persons using such service. CME further notes that the policies of the CEA with respect to clearing are comparable to a number of the policies underlying the Exchange Act, such as promoting market transparency for over-the-counter derivatives markets, promoting the prompt and accurate clearance of transactions and protecting investors and the public interest. The proposed rule changes accomplish those objectives by offering investors clearing for a range of FX OTC swap products.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

CME does not believe that the proposed rule change will have any impact, or impose any burden, on competition.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

CME has not solicited, and does not intend to solicit, comments regarding this proposed rule change. CME has not received any unsolicited written comments from interested parties.

III. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Electronic comments may be submitted by using the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>), or send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File No. SR-CME-2011-14 on the subject line.
- Paper comments should be sent in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C., 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2011-14. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of CME. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2011-14 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

IV. Commission's Findings and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change

In its filing, CME requested that the Commission approve this request on an accelerated basis, for good cause shown. CME has articulated three reasons for granting this request on an accelerated basis. One, the products covered by this filing, and CME's operations as a derivatives clearing organization for such products, are regulated by the CFTC under the CEA. Two, the proposed rule changes relate solely to FX swap products and therefore relate solely to its swaps clearing activities and do not significantly relate to CME's functions as a clearing

agency for security-based swaps. Three, not approving this request on an accelerated basis will have a significant impact on the swap clearing business of CME as a designated clearing organization.

Section 19(b) of the Act⁴ directs the Commission to approve a proposed rule change of a self-regulatory organization if it finds that such proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to such organization. The Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act, in particular the requirements of Section 17A of the Act,⁵ and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to CME. Specifically, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 17A(b)(3)(F) of the Act which requires, among other things, that the rules of a clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions because it should allow CME to enhance its services in clearing foreign currency contracts, thereby promoting the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions.⁶

The Commission finds good cause for accelerating approval because: (i) the proposed rule change does not significantly affect any securities clearing operations of the clearing agency (whether in existence or contemplated by its rules) or any related rights or obligations of the clearing agency or persons using such service; (ii) CME has indicated that not providing accelerated approval would have a significant impact on the foreign currency contracts clearing business of CME as a designated clearing organization; and (iii) the activity relating to the non-

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1. In approving this proposed rule change, the Commission has considered the proposed rule's impact on efficiency, competition, and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78c(f).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

security clearing operations of the clearing agency for which the clearing agency is seeking approval is subject to regulation by another regulator.

V. Conclusion

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)⁷ of the Act, that the proposed rule change (SR-CME-2011-14) is approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁸

Kevin M. O'Neill
Deputy Secretary

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).