SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-67953; File No. SR-CME-2012-38)

October 1, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc.; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change to Comply with Revisions to CFTC Regulations Governing Derivatives Clearing Organizations

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 September 21, 2012, 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 to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons and to approve the proposed rule change on an accelerated basis.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change</u>

CME proposes to amend certain of its rules to comply with pending revisions to

Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") Regulations governing derivatives clearing

organizations ("DCOs"). The text of the proposed rule changes is available at the CME's

website at http://www.cmegroup.com, at the principal office of CME, and at the Commission's

Public Reference Room.

II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organizations Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, CME included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

CME is registered as a derivatives clearing organization with the CFTC and operates a substantial business clearing futures and swaps contracts subject to the jurisdiction of the CFTC. CME proposes to amend certain of its rules to comply with pending changes to CFTC Regulations that require DCOs to make corresponding rule changes. The changes that are the subject of this filing are required by the CFTC to become effective on October 1, 2012.

CFTC Regulation 39.12(b)(7) (Time Frame for Clearing), which becomes effective on October 1, requires each DCO to have rules providing that the DCO: (1) "will accept or reject for clearing as quickly after execution as would be technologically practicable if fully automated systems were used, all contracts" listed for clearing and executed competitively on or subject to the rules of a designated contract market ("DCM") or a swap execution facility ("SEF"); and (2) "will accept or reject for clearing as quickly after submission to the [DCO] as would be technologically practicable if fully automated systems were used, all swaps" listed for clearing that are not executed on or subject to the rules of a DCM or a SEF or executed noncompetitively on or subject to the rules of a DCM or a SEF. In order to comply with CFTC Regulation 39.12(b)(7), CME proposes to amend CME Rules 8F005, 8G005 and 8H005. CME will also make relevant changes to the corresponding CME Clearing Manuals of Operations to account for the proposed rule changes.

CME also made a separate filing, CME Submission 12-280, with its primary regulator, the CFTC, with respect to the proposed rule changes.

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CME believes the proposed changes are consistent with the requirements of the Exchange Act. CME, a derivatives clearing organization, is required to implement the proposed changes to comply with recent changes to CFTC regulations. CME notes that the policies of the Commodity Exchange Act ("CEA") with respect to clearing are comparable to a number of the policies underlying the Exchange Act, such as promoting market transparency for derivatives markets, promoting the prompt and accurate clearance of transactions and protecting investors and the public interest. CME believes the mandatory CFTC changes are specifically designed to facilitate the prompt and efficient processing of all contracts, agreements, and transactions submitted for clearing and will therefore help protect investors and safeguard customer funds.

B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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

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

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:

• Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or

 Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-CME-2012-38 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-CME-2012-38. 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 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 and on CME's website at http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/rule-filings.html.

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-2012-38 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

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IV. <u>Commission's Findings and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change</u>

Section 19(b) of the Act³ 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, and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to CME.⁴ 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 registered clearing agency be designed to promote the prompt and accurate clearance and settlement of securities transactions and, to the extent applicable, derivative agreements, contracts, and transactions.⁵

In its filing, CME requested that the Commission approve this proposed rule change on an accelerated basis for good cause shown. CME cites as the reason for this request CME's operation as a DCO, which is subject to regulation by the CFTC under the CEA, and that the proposed rule changes are required to comply with new CFTC regulations that become effective on October 1, 2012.

The Commission finds good cause, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁶ for approving the proposed rule change prior to the 30th day after the date of publication of notice in

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b).

 ⁴ 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).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78q-1(b)(3)(F).

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

the <u>Federal Register</u> because, as a registered DCO, CME must amend certain of its rules to comply with CFTC Regulation 39.12(b)(7), which becomes effective on October 1, 2012.

V. <u>Conclusion</u>

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the

proposed rule change (SR-CME-2012-38) be, and hereby is, approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁷

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).