



8011-01p
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-67885; File No. SR-CME-2012-35)

September 18, 2012

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc.; Notice of Filing and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of Proposed Rule Change Regarding Acceptance of Additional Interest Rate Swaps for Clearing

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder² notice is hereby given that on September 5, 2012, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Inc. (“CME”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) the proposed rule change as 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 rules related to its business as a derivatives clearing organization offering interest rate swap (“IRS”) clearing services. More specifically, CME proposes to accept the following swaps for clearing beginning September 17, 2012:

- Zero Coupon Swaps denominated in United States Dollars (“USD”), Euros (“EUR”) and British Pound Sterling (“GBP”) with Termination Dates up to 50 years;
- Overnight Index Swaps (“OIS”) denominated in USD, EUR, GBP and Japanese Yen (“JPY”) with Termination Dates up to 30 years; and

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

- An extension of the latest Termination Date for swaps denominated in USD, EUR and GBP to 51 years and 10 days.

The text of proposed rule changes to CME Rule 90002.L, relating to the extension of termination dates, is available at CME's Web site at http://www.cmegroup.com/market-regulation/files/SEC_19B-4_12-35.pdf.

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 is registered as a derivatives clearing organization with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and currently offers clearing services for IRS. With this filing, CME proposes to accept the following swaps for clearing beginning September 17, 2012:

- Zero Coupon Swaps denominated in United States Dollars ("USD") Euros ("EUR") and British Pound Sterling ("GBP") with Termination Dates up to 50 years;
- Overnight Index Swaps ("OIS") denominated in USD, EUR, GBP and Japanese Yen ("JPY") with Termination Dates up to 30 years; and
- An extension of the latest Termination Date for swaps denominated in USD, EUR and GBP to 51 years and 10 days.

The Manual of Operations for CME Cleared Interest Rate Swaps (the “IRS Manual”) is also being updated in connection with these proposed changes to reflect the acceptance of the above interest rate swaps and to make certain other operational updates and typographical and grammatical corrections. The IRS Manual changes will be effective on September 17, 2012.

CME notes that it has also submitted the proposed rule changes that are the subject of this filing to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”), in CME Submission 12-275.

CME believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of the Act and particularly with Section 17A of the Act because it involves clearing of swaps and futures contracts and thus relate solely to CME’s swaps and futures clearing activities pursuant to its registration as a derivatives clearing organization under the Commodity Exchange Act (“CEA”) and does 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 Act, such as promoting market transparency for over-the-counter derivatives and futures 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 enhancements in relation to CME’s IRS product offering.

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-2012-35 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-2012-35. 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 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-2012-35 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

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 with the requirements of Section 17A of the Act,⁴ 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 assure the safeguarding of securities and funds which are in the possession or control of the clearing agency or for which it is responsible and to protect investors and the public interest because it should allow CME to enhance its clearing activities related to IRS products.⁵

In its filing CME requested that the Commission approve this proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the date of publication of the notice of the filing. CME has articulated three reasons for so granting approval. One, the products covered by this filing and CME's

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).

operations as a derivatives clearing organization for such products are regulated by the CFTC under the CEA. Two, the proposed rule change relates solely to IRS products and therefore relate solely to CME's 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.

The Commission finds good cause for granting approval of the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after publication of the notice of its filing 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) the clearing agency has indicated that not providing accelerated approval would have a significant impact on its IRS clearing business as a designated clearing organization; and (iii) the activity relating to the non-security clearing operations of the clearing agency for which the clearing agency is seeking approval is subject to regulation by another federal regulator.

V. Conclusion

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act, that the proposed rule change (SR-CME-2012-35) is approved on an accelerated basis.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁶

Kevin M. O'Neill
Deputy Secretary

[FR Doc. 2012-23440 Filed 09/21/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 09/24/2012]

⁶ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).