



## MEMO

**TO:** MGEX Market Participants

**FROM:** Layne G. Carlson, Corporate Secretary

**DATE:** January 15, 2021

**SUBJECT:** Regulatory Relief Related to Open Outcry Suspension

In connection with the suspension of open outcry options trading, which was taken in response to the worldwide coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, MGEX previously had requested and received Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") approval to extend relief with respect to certain Exchange rules concerning the solicitation and handling of customer orders, including by MGEX registered floor brokers (see MGEX's March 18, 2020 Memo to Members). This relief under Exchange rules was granted as a result of the CFTC granting no-action relief to Designated Contract Markets and floor brokers (see CFTC No-Action Letters 20-09, 20-19, and 20-26). The relief granted by the No-Action Letters expires January 15, 2021. MGEX has continued discussions with the CFTC and expects that additional relief, in some form, may be forthcoming next week. MGEX will continue with forbearance relative to relief from its rules as detailed in the March 18, 2020 Memo to Members until such time the CFTC issues a new No-Action Letter.

Please be aware, the forbearance will apply to only those certain MGEX rules identified in the March 18, 2020 memo. Furthermore, all parties are expected to make reasonable efforts to comply with those rules to the best of their abilities. MGEX will continue to monitor all open outcry options activity for violations, regardless of the relief or forbearance granted.

If you have any questions, please contact Deborah Krump at 612-321-7190 or [dkrump@mgex.com](mailto:dkrump@mgex.com) or Layne G. Carlson at 612-321-7169 or [lcarlson@mgex.com](mailto:lcarlson@mgex.com).