

comment period of forty-five days will provide sufficient time for public consideration of these issues and will look with disfavor upon requests for extension of the comment period.

Accordingly, for the above reasons, the Commission finds that publication of the CBT's draft proposed revisions is in the public interest and will assist the Commission in its consideration of these issues. Commenters are invited to analyze the following issues relating to the CBT's draft proposed revisions and to submit written data, views or comments relating to the draft proposed revisions:

1. Would available deliverable supplies of corn and soybeans be sufficient "to tend to prevent or diminish price manipulation, market congestion, or the abnormal movement of such commodity in interstate commerce," as required by the Act?
2. Would the price differentials for delivery at non-par locations appropriately reflect cash market price differentials for corn or soybeans at such locations relative to each commodity's value at the par delivery point of Chicago, Illinois?
3. Would the proposed load-out provisions calling for three barges per day at Chicago/Burns Harbor and at St. Louis/East St. Louis/Alton (for soybeans) and one barge per day at all other locations conform to commercial practices?
4. Under the contingency plan for river obstructions, the maker would be required to provide the product in loaded barges cif New Orleans. Would the reimbursement to makers of delivery reflect commercial practices? How does the reimbursement scheme relate to the locational price differentials for non-contingency conditions?
5. Would the minimum net worth requirements be necessary to ensure performance on the corn and soybean futures contracts? Do they unduly limit eligibility of firms to become issuers of shipping certificates?

Issued in Washington, D.C., this 26th day of November, 1997, by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Jean A. Webb,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-31534 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6351-01-P

COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

Proposed Amendments to Minneapolis Grain Exchange Durum Wheat Futures Contract and an Application for Designation as a Contract Market in Durum Wheat Futures Options

AGENCY: Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed rule amendments and an application for contract market designation.

SUMMARY: The Minneapolis Grain Exchange (MGE or Exchange) has proposed amendments to the dormant durum wheat futures contract, along with a proposal to reactivate trading in that futures contract pursuant to the provisions of Commission Regulation 5.2. In addition, the Exchange submitted an application for designation as a contract market in durum wheat futures options. The proposals were submitted under the Commission's 45-day Fast Track procedures. The Acting Director of the Division of Economic Analysis (Division) of the Commission, acting pursuant to the authority delegated by Commission Regulation 140.96, has determined that publication of the proposals for comment is in the public interest, will assist the Commission in considering the views of interested persons, and is consistent with the purpose of the Commodity Exchange Act.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 16, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street, NW Washington, DC 20581. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to facsimile number (202) 418-5521, or by electronic mail to secretary@cftc.gov. Reference should be made to MGE durum wheat.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please contact John Bird of the Division of Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW, Washington, 20581, telephone (202) 418-5274. Facsimile number: (202) 418-5527. Electronic mail: jbird@cftc.gov

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed amendments and the designation application were submitted pursuant to the Commission's Fast Track procedures for streamlining the review of futures contract rule amendments and new contract

approvals (62 FR 10434). Under those procedures, the proposals, absent any contrary action by the Commission, may be deemed approved at the close of business on January 2, 1998, 45 days after receipt of the proposals. In view of the limited review period provided under the Fast Track procedures, the Commission has determined to publish for public comment notice of the availability of the terms and conditions for 15 days, rather than 30 days as provided for proposals submitted under the regular review procedures.

The amended durum wheat futures contract would call for the delivery at par of shipping certificates representing 5,000 bushels of durum wheat meeting or exceeding specified quality requirements, including a minimum test weight of 60 pounds per bushel and a minimum protein content of 13 percent. Issuers of the proposed shipping certificates would be required to meet certain financial and other requirements, and must be approved by the MGE. Upon surrender of a shipping certificate, the issuer would be required to load the delivery durum wheat in rail cars at a location specified by the certificate issuer, with the issuer being obligated to pay the railroad freight costs to a point designated by the issuer located in the Minneapolis-St. Paul Switching District. Delivery by truck would also be permitted under specified conditions.

Shipping certificate receivers would be obligated to pay a premium charge of one-twelfth of one cent per bushel for each calendar day that the receiver holds the certificates.

Trading would be conducted in the contract months of March, May, July, September, and December. Prices would be quoted in dollars and cents per bushel. The minimum price fluctuation would be one-quarter ($\frac{1}{4}$) cent per bushel. A maximum daily price fluctuation limit of 20 cents per bushel would be applicable to trading at all times in each contract month, except that such price limit would not be applicable to expiring contract months commencing on the first business day of such months.

Delivery of shipping certificates could be made on any business day of the contract month. Trading in an expiring contract month would end on the business day immediately preceding the last seven business day of that month.

Durum wheat options would trade in the same months as the futures contract. The last trading day for expiring option contract months would be the Friday that precedes the first notice day of the underlying futures contract month by at least five business days. The options for

such months would expire at 10:00 a.m. on the first Saturday following the last trading day. Thus, delivery on the futures contract would not be made until after the corresponding option had expired.

Copies of the proposed amendments and terms and conditions will be available for inspection at the Office of the Secretariat, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581. Copies can be obtained through the Office of the Secretariat by mail at the above address, by phone at (202) 418-5100, or via the internet on the CFTC website at www.cftc.gov under "What's Pending."

Other materials submitted by the MGE in support of the proposals may be available upon request pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Commission's regulations thereunder (17 CFR Part 145 (1987)), except to the extent they are entitled to confidential treatment as set forth in 17 CFR 145.5 and 145.9. Requests for copies of such materials should be made to the FOI, Privacy and Sunshine Act Compliance Staff of the Office of Secretariat at the Commission's headquarters in accordance with 17 CFR 145.7 and 145.8.

Any person interested in submitting written data, views, or arguments on the proposals, or with respect to other materials submitted by the MGE, should send such comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 1155 21st Street NW, Washington, DC 20581 by the specified date.

Issued in Washington, DC, on November 24, 1997.

John R. Mielke,
Acting Director.

[FR Doc. 97-31318 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6351-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

National Defense Panel Meeting

AGENCY: National Defense Panel, DoD.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and summary agenda for the meeting of the National Defense Panel on December 8 & 9, 1997. In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law No. 92-463, as amended [5 U.S.C. App. II, (1982)], it has been determined that this National Defense Panel meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C.

552b(c)(1)(1982), and that accordingly this meeting will be closed to the public from 0900-1700, December 8 & 9, 1997 in order for the Panel to discuss classified material.

DATES: December 8 & 9, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Suite 532, 1931 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Defense Panel was established on January 14, 1997 in accordance with the Military Force Structure Review Act of 1996, Public Law 104-201. The mission of the National Defense Panel is to provide the Secretary of Defense and Congress with an independent, non-partisan assessment of the Secretary's Quadrennial Defense Review and an Alternative Force Structure Analysis. This analysis will explore innovative ways to meet the national security challenges of the twenty-first century.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND AGENDA: The National Defense Panel will meet in closed session from 0900-1700 on December 8 & 9. During the closed sessions on December 8th & 9th from 0900-1700 the Panel will meet in Executive Session to write and review the NDP Report at the Crystal Mall 3 office.

The determination to close the meeting is based on the consideration that it is expected that discussion will involve classified matters of national security concern throughout.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Please contact the National Defense Panel at (703) 602-4175/6.

Dated: November 21, 1997.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 97-31325 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary

National Defense Panel Meeting

AGENCY: National Defense Panel, DoD.
ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and summary agenda for the meeting of the National Defense Panel on November 24 & 25, 1997. In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended [5 U.S.C. App. II, (1982)], it has been determined that this National Defense Panel meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) (1982), and that accordingly this meeting will be closed to the public

from 0900-1700, November 24 & 25, 1997 in order for the Panel to discuss classified material.

DATES: November 24 & 25, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Suite 532, 1931 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington VA.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Defense Panel was established on January 14, 1997 in accordance with the Military Force Structure Review Act of 1996, Public Law 104-201. The mission of the National Defense Panel is to provide the Secretary of Defense and Congress with an independent, non-partisan assessment of the Secretary's Quadrennial Defense Review and an Alternative Force Structure Analysis. This analysis will explore innovative ways to meet the national security challenges of the twenty-first century.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND AGENDA: The National Defense Panel will meet in closed session from 0900-1700 on November 24 & 25. During the closed sessions on November 24th & 25th from 0900-1700 the Panel will meet in Executive Session to write and review the NDP Report at the Crystal Mall 3 office.

The determination to close the meeting is based on the consideration that it is expected that discussion will involve classified matters of national security concern throughout.

This Notification also is written verification that the Panel was unable to provide notice of this meeting 15 days prior to the date of the meeting due to scheduling conflicts; finding it necessary to change meeting dates to ensure that all Panel members be in attendance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please contact the National Defense Panel at (703) 602-4175/6.

Dated: November 21, 1997.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 97-31326 Filed 11-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Hanford Site

AGENCY: Department of Energy.
ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-