SUBMISSION COVER SHEET **Registered Entity Identifier Code (optional)** Date: IMPORTANT: CHECK BOX IF CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT IS REQUESTED. **ORGANIZATION SEF DCO SDR** FILING AS A: **DCM ECM/SPDC TYPE OF FILING Rules and Rule Amendments** Certification under § 40.6 (a) or § 41.24 (a) "Non-Material Agricultural Rule Change" under § 40.4 (b)(5) Notification under § 40.6 (d) Request for Approval under § 40.4 (a) or § 40.5 (a) Made Available To Trade Determination under § 40.5 or § 40.6 Advance Notice of SIDCO Rule Change under § 40.10 (a) **Products** Certification under § 40.2 (a) or § 41.23 (a) Submission under § 39.5 Swap Class Certification under § 40.2 (d) Request for Approval under § 40.3 (a) Novel Derivative Product Notification under § 40.12 (a) **RULE NUMBERS DESCRIPTION**



March 10, 2014

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL: submissions@cftc.gov

Melissa Jurgens Office of the Secretariat Commodity Futures Trading Commission Three Lafayette Centre 1155 21st Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20581

Re: Commission Regulation 40.6(a) Certification – Amendments to Natural Gas Options Contract Specifications GFI Swaps Exchange LLC Submission # 14-0005

Dear Ms. Jurgens:

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act (the "CEA") and Section 40.6(a) of the Regulations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (the "Commission"), GFI Swaps Exchange LLC ("GFI") hereby amends its Natural Gas Options contract specifications. Specifically, GFI has amended such specifications (i) to clarify that Natural Gas Options may be either cash or physically settled, (ii) to add New York Mercantile Exchange ("NYMEX") as an acceptable price source, (iii) to correct and clarify references to other price sources and (iv) to clarify product references in the preamble. The amendments will go into effect on March 25, 2014.

The amended contract specifications are attached as Exhibit A. Changes to the contract specifications are attached as Exhibit B, with additions <u>double underlined</u> and deletions <u>stricken</u> through.

GFI has reviewed the core principles ("Core Principles") as set forth in the CEA. During the review, GFI identified the following Core Principle as potentially being impacted:

Core Principle 2 (Compliance with Rules). The amendments contained herein clarify the terms and conditions for each Natural Gas Option effected pursuant to GFI's Rulebook (the "Rules").

Core Principle 3 (Swaps Not Readily Susceptible to Manipulation). Each Natural Gas Options contract referencing NYMEX as its price source is not readily susceptible to manipulation. The value of payments made pursuant to the terms of such Options contract is determined primarily by reference to the applicable NYMEX contract. The price of the relevant NYMEX contract is not readily susceptible to manipulation because it has the following characteristics: (i) it is derived from a cash market that has considerable depth and liquidity resulting from the involvement of numerous institutional participants; (ii) the way in which the relevant NYMEX contract is calculated is well documented and well understood by swap market participants; (iii) the way in which the relevant NYMEX contract is calculated involves appropriate computational procedures that eliminate or reduce the impact of potentially unrepresentative data; (iv) the

Ms. Melissa Jurgens March 10, 2014 Page 2

relevant NYMEX contract is commonly used in the swap markets; (v) information about the relevant NYMEX contract is publicly and readily available; (vi) the relevant NYMEX contract is administered and published by a reputable organization; and (vii) many active participants in the relevant cash market are entities that are subject to regulation. As a designated contract market, NYMEX maintains rules, policies and procedures in compliance with the CEA and Commission Regulations thereunder, including rules that minimize the opportunity to manipulate the cash-settlement price of its contracts.

The corrections to certain other price sources are not substantive in nature (including the specific reference to Gas Daily, which is published by Platts), and therefore do not bear upon compliance with Core Principle 3.

* * *

GFI hereby certifies that the amendments to the Natural Gas Options contract specifications comply with the CEA and Commission Regulations thereunder. GFI additionally certifies that it has concurrently posted a copy of this submission letter and attachments hereto on GFI's website at http://www.gfigroup.com/markets/swaps-exchange/rules-notices.aspx. There were no substantive opposing views.

Please contact the undersigned at (212) 968-2982 or <u>daniel.glatter@gfigroup.com</u> if you have any questions or you would otherwise like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel E. Glatter General Counsel GFI Swaps Exchange LLC

Enclosure

Exhibit A

GFI Contract Specifications

The terms and conditions of Natural Gas Options incorporate by reference such credit and other terms as the parties may establish through their pre-existing bilateral agreement. Natural Gas Options have the following characteristics:

Contract Overview	A natural gas option is a derivative financial instrument that gives one party the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a specific quantity of natural gas from or to another party at a specified price on a specified date.
Trade Date	As agreed by the parties
Effective Date	The date on which the calculation of accrued obligations begins under the contract
Commodity	Natural Gas
Notional Amount	As agreed by the parties
Option Style	[American] [European] [Bermuda] [Asian]
Option Type	[Put] [Call]
Seller	Party [A/B]
Buyer	Party [B/A]
Termination Date	As agreed by the parties
Price Source	Natural Gas Intelligence, Canadian Gas Price Reporter, Inside FERC, Gas Daily, Platts/McGraw Hill or NYMEX, as determined by the parties.
Settlement Type	[Cash Settlement] [Physical Settlement]
Specified Delivery Point	If applicable, as agreed by the parties
Pricing Date(s)	If applicable, as agreed by the parties
Method of Averaging	If applicable, as agreed by the parties
Total Premium	The amount payable by the Buyer to the Seller
Premium Payment Date(s)	The date(s) agreed by the parties
Expiration Date	The date agreed by the parties
Expiration Time	The time agreed by the parties

Exhibit B

GFI Contract Specifications

The terms and conditions of the <u>Natural Gas</u> Options incorporate by reference such credit and other terms as the parties may establish through their pre-existing bilateral agreement. The <u>Natural Gas</u> Options have the following characteristics:

Contract Overview	A natural gas option is a derivative financial instrument that gives one party the right, but not the obligation, to buy or sell a specific quantity of natural gas from or to another party at a specified price on a specified date.
Trade Date	As agreed by the parties
Effective Date	The date on which the calculation of accrued obligations begins under the contract
Commodity	Natural Gas
Notional Amount	As agreed by the parties
Option Style	[American] [European] [Bermuda] [Asian]
Option Type	[Put] [Call]
Seller	Party [A/B]
Buyer	Party [B/A]
Termination Date	As agreed by the parties
Price Source	Natural Gas Intelligence, Canadian Gas Price ReportReporter, Inside FERC, or Gas Daily, Platts/McGraw Hill or NYMEX, as determined by the parties.
Settlement Type	[Cash Settlement] [Physical Settlement]
Specified Delivery Point	If applicable, as agreed by the parties
Pricing Date(s)	If applicable, as agreed by the parties
Method of Averaging	If applicable, as agreed by the parties
Total Premium	The amount payable by the Buyer to the Seller
Premium Payment Date(s)	The date(s) agreed by the parties
Expiration Date	The date agreed by the parties
Expiration Time	The time agreed by the parties