

Chapter 1258

CBL Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset Futures

1258100. SCOPE OF CHAPTER

This chapter is limited in application to CBL Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset Futures. The procedures for trading, clearing, delivery and settlement not specifically covered herein or in Chapter 7 shall be governed by the general rules of the Exchange.

The provisions of these rules shall apply to all CBL Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset (NGO) Futures bought or sold for future delivery on the Exchange with the delivery of emissions offsets that meet the “N-GEO Screening Criteria” requirements set forth in the CBL Standard Instruments Program.

The terms “seller” and “buyer” shall mean the seller of the physical product and the buyer of the physical product, respectively. Parties to the transaction may select a designee for making or taking delivery. The designee, if selected, must be the party’s clearing member. Any party utilizing a designee must submit designee information in such manner as prescribed by the Clearing House.

The term “N-GEO Screening Criteria” shall mean the (1) the voluntary emissions offset unit screening criteria to identify voluntary emissions offset units as eligible for physical delivery under the N-GEO spot contract and (2) compliance with the procedures set forth in the CBL Standard Instruments Program under Schedule 2, as further identified and described [here](#).

The term “N-GEO Eligibility” means a voluntary emissions offset unit, generated and registered under an approved offset crediting program, that meets the eligible emission unit requirements and design criteria identified by CBL and further described [here](#).

The term “N-GEO Approved Registries” shall refer to the following registries included in the N-GEO:

1. Verra Registry, operated by Verified Carbon Standard (VCS)
The term “CBL Market” shall mean the commodity trading system integrated with N-GEO Approved Registries upon which accounts are established for market participants as account holders to transact in, hold and retire offsets.
For purposes of this rule, unless otherwise specified, times referred to herein shall refer to and indicate the Eastern Prevailing Time (EPT).

1258101. CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS

The CBL Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset Futures contract physically delivers emissions offsets that meet all N-GEO Screening Criteria.

1258102. TRADING SPECIFICATIONS

The number of months open for trading at a given time shall be determined by the Exchange.

1258102.A. Trading Schedule

The hours for trading for this contract shall be determined by the Exchange.

1258102.B. Trading Unit

The contract unit shall be one thousand (1,000) emissions (environmental) offsets meeting N-GEO Screening Criteria for delivery made by transfer through the CBL Market. Each contract shall be valued as the contract quantity (1,000) multiplied by the settlement price.

1258102.C. Price Increments

Prices shall be quoted in U.S. dollars and cents per offset. The minimum price fluctuation shall be \$0.01 per offset (\$10.00 per contract).

1258102.D. Position Limits, Exemptions, Position Accountability and Reportable Levels

The applicable position limits and/or accountability levels, in addition to the reportable levels, are set forth in the Position Limit, Position Accountability and Reportable Level Table in the Interpretations & Special Notices Section of Chapter 5.

A Person seeking an exemption from position limits for bona fide commercial purposes shall apply to the Market Regulation Department on forms provided by the Exchange, and the Market Regulation Department may grant qualified exemptions in its sole discretion.

Refer to Rule 559 for requirements concerning the aggregation of positions and allowable exemptions from the specified position limits.

1258102.E. Termination of Trading

Trading shall cease three business days prior to the last business day of the contract month. Any contracts remaining open after the last day of trading must be.

(a) Settled by delivery, which shall take place no later than the third business day after the termination of trading for the contract month, or

(b) Liquidated by means of a bona fide Exchange for Related Position (EFRP), pursuant to Exchange Rule 538. An EFRP is permitted in the expiring futures contract no later than 9 a.m. Eastern Prevailing Time (EPT) one business day after trading terminates on the last day of trading of the expiring futures contract. An EFRP which establishes a futures position for either the buyer or the seller in an expired futures contract shall not be permitted following the termination of trading of an expired futures contract.

1258102.F. Final Settlement

The final settlement price for the delivery month shall be the CBL Markets Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset Standard Spot Price on the last trade date. The final settlement price shall be the basis for delivery.

1258103. DELIVERY

CBL Nature-Based Global Emissions Offset Futures contract deliveries shall comply with all requirements for the electronic transfer of offsets on CBL Market. Notwithstanding the use of a designee, all clearing members will remain ultimately responsible for performance of all applicable contract terms specific to the sellers' clearing members and buyer's clearing members.

1258104. DELIVERY PROCEDURES

CBL Market is a transfer agent contracted by its account holders to facilitate the transfer of emissions offsets and payment. Deliveries against expiring contracts shall be by book-entry transfer. The seller's and buyer's clearing member is required to verify that its customer as a buyer or seller, holds a registry account with the N-GEO Approved Registry included in the N-GEO Screening Criteria, the account can transfer offsets and receive offsets and seller has identified a bank account to CBL Market.

The seller shall by 9:00 a.m. EPT on the delivery day, transfer offsets that meet N-GEO Screening Criteria to the designated registry account. No later than 9:00 a.m. EPT, the buyer must instruct and remit funds in USD for delivery into the designated cash account. The transfer agent will then transfer the appropriate funds to the seller and the appropriate number of offsets meeting N-GEO Screening Criteria to the buyer, by 2:00 p.m. EPT. Upon receipt of transfer confirmation from the clearing member, the clearing house will release the delivery margins.

All rights, title, and interest in and to, and risk of loss related to, the offsets will transfer upon receipt in the applicable CBL Market account.

Seller, buyer, and CBL Market shall always obtain and adequately maintain systems and technology as may be necessary in order to comply with CBL or any N-GEO Approved Registries rules. The Exchange may make amendments to delivery and timing of delivery, which may have a material impact to the contract, and will notify the Clearing Members of such amendments resulting from amendments any N-GEO Approved Registries requirement. These amendments include, but are not limited to, amendments to the N-GEO eligible emissions unit programs and specific unit criteria found [here](#).

By transferring offsets through the transfer agent, the seller or the seller's clearing member represents and warrants that, at the time of delivery, it has good and marketable title to such offsets, and that such offsets are free and clear of all liens, security interests, claims, encumbrances and adverse claims.

1258104.A. Responsibilities of Clearing Members

1. Notice of Intention to Accept
Clearing members having open long positions shall provide the Clearing House with a Notice of Intention to Accept delivery by 10:00 a.m. EPT on the business day after the final day of trading providing number of contracts, EMA account, registry account and any other information required by the Exchange.
2. Notice of Intention to Deliver
Clearing members having open short positions shall provide the Clearing House with a Notice of Intention to Deliver by 10:00 a.m. EPT on the business day after the final day of trading providing number of contracts, Registry, EMA account and any other information required by the Exchange.

1258104.B. Final Settlement Price

The final settlement price shall be the basis for delivery.

1258104.C. Assignment Day

The Clearing House shall allocate Notices of Intention to Accept and Notices of Intention to Deliver, on the first business day after the final day of trading, by matching positions, to the extent possible.

The Clearing House shall provide Assignment Notice Reports to the respective clearing members on the first business day after the final day of trading.

1258105. TIMING OF DELIVERY

For purposes of this Rule 1258105:

"Delivery Period" shall mean the time between the final day of trading and the third business day following the final day of trading.

Delivery shall take place on the last day of the Delivery Period, which unless extended is the third business day after the final day of trading. Should the N-GEO Approved Registries or CBL Market be inoperable during the Delivery Period due to periodic maintenance that is an Exchange business day, the Exchange shall have the option to extend the Delivery Period by an additional business day at the Registries, CBL Market, and Exchange.

1. The seller or the seller's clearing member shall transfer offsets subject to delivery to their respective CBL account by 9:00 a.m. EPT on the third business day after the final day of trading of the delivery month.
2. The buyer or the buyer's clearing member shall deposit / transfer payment equal to the full value of the product to their designated CBL Market account by 9:00 a.m. EPT on the third business day after the final day of trading of the delivery month.
3. The buyer or the buyer's clearing member shall receive offsets from CBL Market by 2:00 p.m. EPT on the third business day after the final day of trading of the delivery month.
4. For each seller or seller's clearing member that has satisfied its obligations under subsection (1) of this rule, CBL Market shall pay the seller's clearing member full contract value by 2:00 p.m. EPT on the third business day after the final day of trading of the delivery month.

1258106. DELIVERY MARGINS AND PAYMENT

1258106.A. Definitions

For purposes of this Rule 1258106:

"Payment Date" shall mean the date on which the CBL Market transfers Payment in connection with a delivery to the seller. If the seller selects a designee, the CBL Market will transfer Payment in connection with a delivery to the seller's designee.

"Payment" shall include the settlement price, in U.S. dollars and cents, times the number of contracts times one thousand (1,000).

1258106.B. Margin

The buyer's clearing member and seller's clearing member shall deposit with the Exchange margins in such amounts and in such form as required by the Exchange. Such margins shall be returned on the business day following notification to the Exchange that delivery and Payment have been completed.

1258106.C. Payment

Any Payment made on the Payment Date shall be based on offsets that the seller's clearing member is obligated to deliver pursuant to the applicable delivery.

In the event that delivery cannot be accomplished because of a failure of the CBL Market wire, or because of a failure of either the buyer, the buyer's designee, the seller, or the seller's designee, delivery shall be made before 9:30 a.m. EPT on the next business day on which the CBL Market wire, or bank access to it, is operable.

1258107. VALIDITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Exchange makes no representation respecting the authenticity, validity or accuracy of any Notice of Intention to Accept, Notice of Intention to Deliver, check or of any document or instrument delivered pursuant to these rules.