#### VIA CFTC PORTAL

24 February 2023

Mr. Christopher Kirkpatrick Commodity Futures Trading Commission 1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street NW Three Lafayette Centre Washington, DC 20581

# LCH Limited Self-Certification: Rates Reform - SGD SOR and THB THBFIX Fallback and Conversion Fees

Dear Mr. Kirkpatrick,

Pursuant to Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") Regulation §40.6(a), LCH Limited ("LCH"), a derivatives clearing organization registered with the CFTC, is submitting for self-certification website changes to accommodate new fees related to the Rates Reform Program.

#### Part I: Explanation and Analysis

LCH supports the continuing industry-wide efforts to transition from existing benchmarks to riskfree rates ("RFRs"). The Singapore Dollar Swap Offer Rate ("SGD SOR") and Thai Baht Interest Rate Fixing ("THB THBFIX") benchmarks are set to be discontinued from 30th June 2023. This cessation necessitates the adoption of the relevant RFR – SGD Singapore Overnight Rate Average ("SGD SORA") and THB Thai Overnight Repurchase Rate ("THB THOR") respectively.

LCH proposes to charge monthly Fallback Fees as applicable, as well as Conversion Fees for those contracts that remain outstanding at the conversion event.

#### Fallback fee

The Fallback Fee applies to cleared contracts for which an index cessation event has occurred. It aims to encourage early transition before the LCH conversion processes are run, thereby reducing the volume and value of such contracts requiring ongoing risk and default management and ultimately needing to undergo the conversion process.

Effective 31st March 2023, LCH will apply a monthly Fallback Fee for outstanding SGD SOR and THB THBFIX contracts which have a maturity date after the benchmarks' cessation date of 30th June 2023, as of the last good business day of that month.

#### An LSEG Business

LCH | 10 Paternoster Square | London EC4M 7LS | T: +44 (0)20 7426 7000 | F: +44 (0)20 7426 7001 | Ich.com LCH Group Holdings Limited | LCH Limited | Banque Centrale de Compensation | LCH.Clearnet LLC LCH Limited. Registered in England No. 25932 Registered Office: 10 Paternoster Square, London, EC4M 7LS LCH The Markets' Partner

The following charges will apply to cleared contracts in LCH SwapClear Clearing Member House and Client accounts; 30-days' notice will be provided for any amendment to these fee amounts.

Fee per outstanding Contract:

March 2023	April 2023	May 2023
USD 5.00	USD 5.00	USD 5.00

#### Conversion fee

The Conversion Fee applies to cleared contracts for which a rate will cease and where LCH converts the cleared contract to one referencing an RFR. The conversion process is designed as a last resort for those participants who are otherwise unable to transition away from fallen back rates. The fee will allow LCH to recover the costs of designing, building and running the conversion process and should also discourage over-reliance on the conversion tool.

LCH will apply a conversion fee to SwapClear Clearing Member House and Client contracts which are not otherwise converted and will therefore require the LCH conversion tool.

For SGD SOR and THB THBFIX, conversion would apply to SwapClear contracts outstanding at close of business on Friday 9th June 2023 and be conducted over that weekend.

Fee Amount per Contract:

SGD SOR	THB THBFIX
USD 30.00	USD 30.00

An annual Conversion Fee Cap will apply in 2023 for all SwapClear Clearing Member House accounts as follows. Note, this cap applies to Conversion Fees only and is not applicable for Fallback Fees.

Platinum Tariff	Gold, Silver and Bronze Tariffs
USD 150,000	USD 100,000

For the avoidance of doubt, USD LIBOR, SGD SOR and THB THBFIX will contribute to the 2023 Conversion Fee Cap.

#### Part II: Description of Rule Changes

There are no changes to the LCH Rulebook, however LCH will make changes to its website. The changes to the webpage on SwapClear fees are set out in **Appendix I.** 

### Part III: Core Principle Compliance

LCH reviewed the proposed changes against the requirements of the Core Principles and finds it will continue to comply with all the requirements and standards set forth therein. Specifically, these rule changes have potential relevance to Core Principle L under CFTC regulation §39.21 (Public information).

The changes described in this filing ensure that LCH meets the objectives of Core Principle L (§39.21) on Public information, which requires DCOs to make available publicly each clearing and other fee charged to Clearing Members. Publishing the changes to the SwapClear clearing fees

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will provide sufficient information to market participants to enable them to identify and evaluate accurately the costs associated with using its services.

#### Part IV: Public Information

LCH has posted a notice of pending certification with the CFTC and a copy of the submission on LCH's website at: <u>https://www.lch.com/resources/rulebooks/proposed-rule-changes</u>.

#### Part V: Opposing Views

There were no opposing views expressed to LCH by governing board or committee members, members of LCH or market participants.

#### Certification

LCH hereby certifies to the CFTC, pursuant to the procedures set forth in CFTC Regulation §40.6, that the attached submission complies with the Commodity Exchange Act, as amended, and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

Should you have any questions please contact me at <u>lavannyan.mahalingam@lseg.com</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Lavannyan Mahalingam Regulatory Advisor LCH Limited

#### Appendix I

Website changes (Fees webpage - new section)

SwapClear | Fees | LCH Group

#### **Client Fees Segment**

## SGD SOR & THB THBFIX Fallback Fees

Effective 31st March 2023, LCH will apply a monthly Fallback Fee for outstanding SGD SOR and THB THBFIX contracts which have a maturity date after the benchmarks' cessation date of 30th June 2023, as of the last business day of that month.

Fee per outstanding SwapClear Contract:

March 2023	April 2023	May 2023
USD 5	USD 5	USD 5

Further details can be found in circular 4248.

• 'SwapClear Contract' includes an 'FCM SwapClear Contract'

## **Conversion Fees**

LCH will apply a conversion fee to client SwapClear Contracts which are converted by the LCH conversion tool.

Fee Amount:

USD LIBOR	SGD SOR	THB THBFIX
USD 30	USD 30	USD 30

Further details on the USD LIBOR conversion fees can be found in circular <u>4217.</u>

Further details on the SGD SOR and THB THBFIX conversion fees can be found in circular 4248.

- Any LIBOR-LIBOR basis swaps that are voluntarily split into two interest rate swaps by LCH prior to conversion will be treated as two separate swaps from the point of splitting. As such, any outstanding LIBOR contracts what may have arisen from a basis swap splitting event will be charged separately if included in a conversion cycle
- 'SwapClear Contract' includes an 'FCM SwapClear Contract'



#### Member Fees Segment

## SGD SOR & THB THBFIX Fallback Fees

Effective 31st March 2023, LCH will apply a monthly Fallback Fee for outstanding SGD SOR and THB THBFIX contracts which have a maturity date after the benchmarks' cessation date of 30th June 2023, as of the last business day of that month.

Fee per outstanding SwapClear Contract:

March 2023	April 2023	May 2023
USD 5	USD 5	USD 5

Further details can be found in circular 4248.

• 'SwapClear Contract' includes an 'FCM SwapClear Contract'

## **Conversion Fees**

LCH will apply a conversion fee to SwapClear Clearing Member House SwapClear Contracts which are converted by the LCH conversion tool.

Fee Amount:

USD LIBOR	SGD SOR	THB THBFIX
USD 30	USD 30	USD 30

A cap will apply in 2023 for all SwapClear Clearing Member House accounts as follows. Note, this cap applies across Conversion Fees only.

Platinum Tariff	Gold, Silver and Bronze Tariffs
USD 150,000	USD 100,000

Further details on the USD LIBOR conversion fees can be found in circular 4217.

Further details on the SGD SOR and THB THBFIX conversion fees can be found in circular 4248.

• Any LIBOR-LIBOR basis swaps that are voluntarily split into two interest rate swaps by LCH prior to conversion will be treated as two separate swaps from the point of splitting. As such, any outstanding LIBOR contracts that may have arisen from a basis swaps splitting event will be charged separately if included in a conversion cycle