New York, 4 December 2017 - The International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. ("ISDA") is issuing this statement of best practices in the interest of promoting orderly valuation and settlement of relevant financially settled derivative transactions in light of Platts’ decision to merge The Steel Index Iron Ore Fines 62% Fe price series and Platts IODEX assessment.

On July 6, 2017, Platts issued a Subscriber Note describing its determination to merge The Steel Index Iron Ore Fines 62% Fe price series ("TSI-62% FE") and Platts IODEX ("IODEX") in order to eliminate the basis risk for market participants looking to hedge their IODEX-linked physical exposure via derivatives contracts settling against the TSI-62% FE index, with effect from January 2, 2018 (the “Effective Date”). The merger will be achieved by changing the methodologies of both price series to align them. The TSI-62% FE and IODEX will be published as two identical values from the Effective Date”.

Members of various ISDA commodities working groups met by teleconference on several occasions to discuss how to treat this change for purposes of derivative transactions that include any Commodity Reference Prices that are based upon TSI-62% FE and IODEX and have Pricing Dates or maturities falling on or after January 2, 2018. As a result of such discussions and other industry developments, the Statement below was developed.

The Statement below can be applied to all financially settled derivative transactions that incorporate Commodity Reference Prices that are based upon TSI-62% FE and IODEX and include Pricing Dates or maturities falling on or after January 2, 2018 (even if such transactions were entered into on or before the date on which the assessment’s specifications will be changed and whether such transactions were documented under ISDA Master Agreements or under other (non-ISDA) contractual arrangements) (each, an “Affected Transaction”). Parties are not obliged to follow the Statement set forth below and may choose alternate means of treating Affected Transactions.

Please Note: The Statement below does not constitute legal, accounting or financial advice. The Statement provides the market consensus among participants and is not meant to be binding in any way. As with all market information and guidance that ISDA disseminates, parties are free to choose alternative means of addressing the event. Parties to Affected Transactions are responsible for considering their own documentation and the specific terms of the Affected Transactions and should satisfy themselves that the recommendation is appropriate and is properly applied in the context of the Affected Transaction to reflect the commercial intention of the parties.
Statement

With respect to any uncleared Affected Transaction (unless the parties otherwise agree) neither the change in methodology and the publication of TSI-62% FE and IODEX as two identical values from the Effective Date nor any related change in respect of an Exchange contract upon which a Commodity Reference Price is based should be deemed a Market Disruption Event (regardless of whether a Calculation Agent may determine that a Market Disruption Event had occurred as a result of one or more of such events).

All capitalized terms used in this statement and not defined herein shall have the meanings set forth in the 2005 ISDA Commodity Definitions or the 1993 ISDA Commodity Derivatives Definitions (and the 2000 Supplement thereto), as may be appropriate.

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