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CFTC issues no-action letter for treasury affiliates

Contributed by Shearman & Sterling LLP

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On November 26 2014 the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) issued CFTC Staff Letter 14-144, a no-action letter modifying relief that was previously issued for treasury affiliates in June 2013, in CFTC No-Action Letter 13-22. Similar to the June 2013 letter, the new letter provides relief from required clearing for 'eligible treasury affiliates' that are wholly owned by a non-financial parent company and are defined as 'financial entities' under the Commodity Exchange Act, due to the activities undertaken on behalf of their non-financial affiliates. The new letter makes several changes to the June 2013 letter, including:

- amendments to requirements imposed on operations between a treasury affiliate and its affiliates;
- removal of restrictions as to the number of financial affiliates that may be in a corporate group; and
- permission for treasury entities affiliated with non-bank financial companies designated as systemically important to elect relief subject to certain conditions.

CFTC Staff Letter 14-144 is available at

www.cftc.gov/ucm/groups/public/@Irlettergeneral/documents/letter/14-144.pdf.

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