RECEIVED C.F.T.C.

'00 APR 20 PM 1 19

April 1402900 OF THE SECRETARIAT

MEMORANDUM

COMMENT

To:

Public Comment File

From: Commissioner Barbara Pedersen Holum Commissioner Thomas J. Erickson

Re:

Application of the Merchants' Exchange of St. Louis, L.L.C. for Designation as a

Contract Market in the Illinois Waterway and the St. Louis Harbor Barge Rate

Futures Contracts, Comment File 00-004

On April 4, 2000, Commissioners Holum and Erickson met with Robert J. Stewart and Dave Jump concerning the above-referenced application. Also in attendance were Natalie A. Markman and George G. Wilder, counsels to the Commissioners.

39