

From: secretary <secretary@CFTC.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2010 3:45 PM
To: Metals Hearing <metalshearing@CFTC.gov>
Subject: FW: Comments on position limits in the metals markets

From: John Thistle [mailto:young.thistle@sympatico.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, April 07, 2010 3:17 PM
To: secretary
Subject: Comments on position limits in the metals markets

Secretary of the Commission
Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Re: question 11 in the Request for Comments section of the proposal on Federal Position Limits for Referenced Energy Contracts and Associated Regulations.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the potential reestablishment of position limits in the metals futures markets.

I watched with interest the March 25 hearing on the metals. As a Canadian, I was reminded of past debates over the regulation of my country's banking industry. A decade ago, Canadian bankers were almost unanimous in predicting that unless they were allowed greater freedom, the Canadian banking industry would soon be devoured by its international competitors. The government upheld the longstanding principles of its regulations, and none of the industry's dire forecasts came true. On the contrary, our banking system is now the envy of much of the world.

I urge the CFTC to focus on its responsibility of preventing excessive speculation in those markets over which it has authority. As Chairman Gensler says, this means avoiding concentration: please establish meaningful position limits, and restrict any exemptions from those limits to verifiably legitimate hedgers.

Sincerely,

John Thistle