

§ 4290.800

the change in business or commercial activity was caused by an unforeseen change in circumstances and was not contemplated at the time the Financing was made.

(3) *Additional Financing.* If the Secretary approves your request to retain a Financing under paragraph (b)(2) of this section, you may provide additional Financing to the Portfolio Concern to the extent necessary to protect against the loss of the amount of your original investment, subject to the overline limitations of § 4290.740.

(c) *Effect of a change in business activity occurring more than one year after the initial Financing.* If a Portfolio Concern becomes ineligible because of a change in business activity more than one year after your initial Financing you may:

- (1) Retain your investment; and
- (2) Provide additional Financing to the Portfolio Concern to the extent necessary to protect against the loss of the amount of your original investment, subject to the overline limitations of § 4290.740.

STRUCTURING RBIC FINANCING OF ELIGIBLE ENTERPRISES—TYPES OF FINANCINGS

§ 4290.800 Financings in the form of Equity Securities.

You may purchase the Equity Securities of an Enterprise. You may not, inadvertently or otherwise:

- (a) Become a general partner in any unincorporated business; or
- (b) Become jointly or severally liable for any obligations of an unincorporated business.

§ 4290.810 Financings in the form of Loans.

You are permitted to make Loans to an Enterprise only if:

- (a) The maturity or term of the Loan is five years or less; and
- (b) You determine that making the Loan is necessary to preserve an existing Financing (other than a Loan) in that same Enterprise.

§ 4290.815 Financings in the form of Debt Securities.

(a) *General rule.* You may purchase Debt Securities from an Enterprise.

7 CFR Ch. XLII (1–1–10 Edition)

(b) *Restriction of options obtained by RBIC’s management and employees.* If you have outstanding Leverage or plan to obtain Leverage, your employees, officers, directors, general partners, or managing members, or the general partners or managing members of your Investment Advisor/Manager, may obtain options in a Portfolio Concern only if:

- (1) They participate in the Financing on a *pari passu* basis with you; or
- (2) The Secretary gives its prior written approval; or
- (3) The options received are compensation for services as a member of the board of directors of the Enterprise, and such compensation does not exceed that paid to other outside directors. In the absence of such directors, fees must be reasonable when compared with amounts paid to outside directors of similar Enterprises.

§ 4290.820 Financings in the form of guarantees.

(a) *General rule.* At the request of an Enterprise or where necessary to protect your existing Financing in a Portfolio Concern, you may guarantee the monetary obligation of an Enterprise to any non-Associate creditor.

(b) *Exception.* You may not issue a guaranty if:

- (1) You would become subject to State regulation as an insurance, guaranty or surety business; or
- (2) The amount of the guaranty plus any direct Financings to the Enterprise exceed the overline limitations of § 4290.740, except that a pledge of the Equity Securities of the issuer or a subordination of your lien or creditor position does not count toward your overline.

(c) *Pledge of RBIC’s assets as guaranty.* For purposes of this section, a guaranty with recourse only to specific asset(s) you have pledged is equal to the fair market value of such asset(s) or the amount of the debt guaranteed, whichever is less.

§ 4290.825 Purchasing securities from an underwriter or other third party.

(a) *Securities purchased through or from an underwriter.* You may purchase

the securities of an Enterprise through or from an underwriter if:

(1) You purchase such securities within 90 days of the date the public offering is first made;

(2) Your purchase price is no more than the original public offering price; and

(3) The amount paid by you for the securities (less ordinary and reasonable underwriting charges and commissions) has been, or will be, paid to the issuer, and the underwriter certifies in writing that this requirement has been met.

(b) *Recordkeeping requirements.* You must keep records available for the Secretary's inspection which show the relevant details of the transaction, including but not limited to, date, price, commissions, and the underwriter's certifications required under paragraphs (a)(3) and (c) of this section.

(c) *Underwriter's requirements.* The underwriter must certify whether it is your Associate. You may pay reasonable and customary commissions and expenses to an Associate underwriter for the portion of an offering that you purchase.

(d) *Securities purchased from another RBIC.* You may purchase from, or exchange with, another RBIC, Portfolio securities (or any interest therein). Such purchase or exchange may only be made on a non-recourse basis. You may not have more than one-third of your total assets (valued at cost) invested in such securities. If you have previously sold Portfolio securities (or any interest therein) on a recourse basis, you must include the amount for which you may be contingently liable in your overline computation.

(e) *Purchases of securities from other non-issuers.* You may purchase securities of an Enterprise from a non-issuer not previously described in this § 4290.825 if such acquisition is a reasonably necessary part of the overall sound Financing of the Enterprise.

§ 4290.830 Minimum term of Financing.

(a) *General rule.* The minimum term of each of your Financings is one year.

(b) *Restrictions on mandatory redemption of Equity Securities.* If you have acquired Equity Securities, options, or warrants on terms that include re-

demption by the Portfolio Concern, you must not require redemption by the Portfolio Concern within the first year of your acquisition except as permitted in § 4290.850.

(c) *Special rules for Loans and Debt Securities—(1) Term.* The minimum term for Loans and Debt Securities starts with the first disbursement of the Financing.

(2) *Prepayment.* You must permit voluntary prepayment of Loans and Debt Securities by the Portfolio Concern. You must obtain the Secretary's prior written approval of any restrictions on the ability of the Portfolio Concern to prepay other than the imposition of a reasonable prepayment penalty under paragraph (c)(3) of this section.

(3) *Prepayment penalties.* You may charge a reasonable prepayment penalty which must be agreed upon at the time of the Financing. If the Secretary determines that a prepayment is unreasonable, you must refund the entire penalty to the Portfolio Concern. A prepayment penalty equal to five percent of the outstanding balance during the first year of any Financing, declining by one percentage point per year through the fifth year, is considered the maximum reasonable amount.

§ 4290.835 Exceptions to minimum term of Financing.

You may make a Financing with a term of less than one year but only if such Financing is in contemplation of another Financing, with a term of one year or more, to the same Enterprise.

§ 4290.840 Maximum term of Financing.

The maximum term of any Debt Security must be no longer than 20 years.

§ 4290.845 Maximum rate of amortization on Loans and Debt Securities.

The principal of any Loan, or the loan portion of any Debt Security, with a term of one year or less, cannot be amortized faster than straight line. If the term is greater than one year, the principal cannot be amortized faster than straight line for the first year.