

1934 (15 U.S.C. §§ 78a *et seq.*), which imposes sales practice requirements on broker-dealers who recommend purchases of certain low-priced, non-NASDAQ OTC securities to persons other than established customers of the broker-dealers. It is estimated that approximately 400 respondents will incur an average burden of 78 hours per year to comply with this rule, for a total annual burden of 31,200 hours.

Direct general comments to the Clearance Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission at the address below. Direct any comments concerning the accuracy of the estimated average burden hours for compliance with the Commission rules and forms to David T. Copenhafer, Acting Director, Office of Information Technology, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 and the Clearance Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Paperwork Project Number 3235-0385, Office of Management and Budget, Room 3208, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Dated: April 12, 1995.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-9670 Filed 4-18-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

[Rel. No. IC-21005; 811-4662]

SAFECO U.S. Government Securities Fund, Inc.; Notice of Application

April 13, 1995.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

ACTION: Notice of application for deregistration under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act").

APPLICANT: SAFECO U.S. Government Securities Fund, Inc.

RELEVANT ACT SECTION: Section 8(f).

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company.

FILING DATE: The application was filed on March 31, 1995.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving applicant with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on May 8, 1995, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicant, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service.

Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested.

Persons may request notification of a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, SEC, 450 5th Street NW., Washington, DC 20549. Applicant, SAFECO Plaza, Seattle, WA 98185.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Kay Frech, Senior Attorney, at (202) 942-0579, or C. David Messman, Branch Chief, at (202) 942-0564 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch.

Applicant's Representations

1. Applicant is an open-end diversified management investment company that was organized as a corporation under the laws of the State of Washington. On May 6, 1986, applicant registered under the Act as an investment company, and filed a registration statement to register its shares under the Securities Act of 1933. The registration statement was declared effective on July 15, 1986, and the initial public offering commenced on that date.

2. On May 6, 1993, applicant's board of directors approved an agreement and plan of reorganization (the "Plan") between applicant and SAFECO Taxable Bond Trust, a registered open-end management investment company organized under the laws of Delaware (the "Acquiring Fund").¹

3. By moving its assets from a Washington corporation to a Delaware trust, applicant expects its shareholders to benefit from the adoption of new methods of operations and employment of new technologies that are expected to reduce costs. For example, Washington corporations are required to hold annual meetings, whereas Delaware trusts have no such requirement. Further, Delaware trusts generally have greater flexibility than Washington corporations to respond to future contingencies, allowing such trusts to operate under the most advanced and cost efficient form of organization. For example, Delaware law authorizes electronic or telephonic communications between a Delaware trust and its shareholders. In

¹ Applicant's board of directors determined that the Plan was in the best interests of applicant and that the interests of applicant's existing shareholders would not be diluted as a result of effecting the transactions.

addition, as one of several series of the Acquiring Fund, applicant's shareholders should enjoy certain expense savings through economies of scale that would not be available to a stand-alone entity.

4. On May 7, 1993, applicant filed proxy materials with the SEC and afterwards distributed such proxy materials to its shareholders. On August 5, 1993, applicant's shareholders approved the reorganization.

5. Pursuant to the Plan, on September 30, 1993, applicant transferred all of its assets to the Acquiring Fund in exchange for shares of the Acquiring Fund. Immediately thereafter, applicant distributed *pro rata* to its shareholders the shares it received from the Acquiring Fund in the reorganization. On September 30, 1993, applicant had 6,252,370.373 shares outstanding, having an aggregate net asset value of \$62,719,739.85 and a per share net asset value of \$10.03.

6. Expenses incurred in connection with the reorganization, consisting of legal fees, accounting fees, and printing and mailing costs for the proxy solicitation, were approximately \$12,068 and were paid by applicant.

7. There are no securityholders to whom distributions in complete liquidation of their interests have not been made. Applicant has no debts or other liabilities that remain outstanding. Applicant is not a party to any litigation or administrative proceeding.

8. Applicant filed articles of dissolution with the State of Washington on October 1, 1993.

9. Applicant is not now engaged, nor does it propose to engage, in any business activities other than those necessary for the winding up of its affairs.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-9671 Filed 4-18-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

[Rel. No. IC-21006; 811-7296]

SAFECO Intermediate-Term Municipal Bond Fund, Inc.; Notice of Application

April 13, 1995.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

ACTION: Notice of application for deregistration under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act").

APPLICANT: SAFECO Intermediate-Term Municipal Bond Fund, Inc.

RELEVANT ACT SECTION: Section 8(f).

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company.

FILING DATE: The application was filed on March 31, 1995.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving applicant with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on May 8, 1995, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicant, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons may request notification of a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, SEC, 450 5th Street NW., Washington, DC 20549. Applicant, SAFECO Plaza, Seattle, WA 98185.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Kay Frech, Senior Attorney, at (202) 942-0579, or C. David Messman, Branch Chief, at (202) 942-0564 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch.

Applicant's Representations

1. Applicant is an open-end diversified management investment company that was organized as a corporation under the laws of the State of Washington. On October 21, 1992, applicant registered under the Act as an investment company, and filed a registration statement to register its shares under the Securities Act of 1933. The registration statement was declared effective on March 18, 1993, and the initial public offering commenced on that date.

2. On May 6, 1993, applicant's board of directors approved an agreement and plan of reorganization (the "Plan") between applicant and SAFECO Tax-Exempt Bond Trust, a registered open-end management investment company organized under the laws of Delaware (the "Acquiring Fund").¹

3. By moving its assets from a Washington corporation to a Delaware trust, applicant expects its shareholders to benefit from the adoption of new methods of operations and employment of new technologies that are expected to reduce costs. For example, Washington corporations are required to hold annual meetings, whereas Delaware trusts have no such requirement. Further, Delaware trusts generally have greater flexibility than Washington corporations to respond to future contingencies, allowing such trusts to operate under the most advanced and cost efficient form of organization. For example, Delaware law authorizes electronic or telephonic communications between a Delaware trust and its shareholders. In addition, as one of several series of the Acquiring Fund, applicant's shareholders should enjoy certain expense savings through economies of scale that would not be available to a stand-alone entity.

4. On May 7, 1993, applicant filed proxy materials with the SEC and afterwards distributed such proxy materials to its shareholders. On August 5, 1993, applicant's shareholders approved the reorganization.

5. Pursuant to the Plan, on September 30, 1993, applicant transferred all of its assets to the Acquiring Fund in exchange for shares of the Acquiring Fund. Immediately thereafter, applicant distributed *pro rata* to its shareholders the shares it received from the Acquiring Fund in the reorganization. On September 30, 1993, applicant had 716,492.424 shares outstanding, having an aggregate net asset value of \$7,642,305.23 and a per share net asset value of \$10.67.

6. Expenses incurred in connection with the reorganization, consisting of legal fees, accounting fees, and printing and mailing costs for the proxy solicitation, were approximately \$4,417 and were paid by SAFECO Asset Management Company, applicant's former investment adviser.

7. There are no securityholders to whom distributions in complete liquidation of their interests have not been made. Applicant has no debts or other liabilities that remain outstanding. Applicant is not a party to any litigation or administrative proceeding.

8. Applicant filed articles of dissolution with the State of Washington on October 1, 1993.

9. Applicant is not now engaged, nor does it propose to engage, in any business activities other than those

necessary for the winding up of its affairs.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, pursuant to delegated authority.

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-9672 Filed 4-18-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

[Rel. No. IC-21007; 811-278]

SAFECO Equity Fund, Inc.; Notice of Application

April 13, 1995.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

ACTION: Notice of application for deregistration under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act").

APPLICANT: SAFECO Equity Fund, Inc.

RELEVANT ACT SECTION: Section 8(f).

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company.

FILING DATE: The application was filed on March 31, 1995.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving applicant with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on May 8, 1995, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicant, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons may request notification of a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, SEC, 450 5th Street NW., Washington, DC 20549. Applicant, SAFECO Plaza, Seattle, WA 98185.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary Kay Frech, Senior Attorney, at (202) 942-0579, or C. David Messman, Branch Chief, at (202) 942-0564 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch.

¹ Applicant's board of directors determined that the Plan was in the best interests of applicant and that the interests of applicant's existing

shareholders would not be diluted as a result of effecting the transactions.