**PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION**

**Required Interest Rate Assumption for Determining Variable-Rate Premium; Interest Assumptions for Multiemployer Plan Valuations Following Mass Withdrawal**

**AGENCY:** Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

**ACTION:** Notice of interest rates and assumptions.

**SUMMARY:** This notice informs the public of the interest rates and assumptions to be used under certain Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation regulations. These rates and assumptions are published elsewhere (or can be derived from rates published elsewhere), but are collected and published in this notice for the convenience of the public. Interest rates are also published on the PBGC’s Web site (http://www.pbgc.gov).

**DATES:** The required interest rate for determining the variable-rate premium under part 4006 applies to premium payment years beginning in May 2004. The interest assumptions for performing multiemployer plan valuations following mass withdrawal under part 4281 apply to valuation dates occurring in June 2004.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Harold J. Ashner, Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005, 202–326–4024. (TTY/TDD users may call the Federal relay service toll-free at 1–800–877–8339 and ask to be connected to 202–326–4024.)

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Variable-Rate Premiums**

Section 4006(a)(3)(E)(iii)(II) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and §4006.4(b)(1) of the PBGC’s regulation on Premium Rates (29 CFR part 4006) prescribe use of an assumed interest rate (the “required interest rate”) in determining a single-employer plan’s variable-rate premium. Pursuant to the Pension Funding Equity Act of 2004, for premium payment years beginning in 2004 or 2005, the required interest rate is the “applicable percentage” (currently 85 percent) of the annual rate of interest determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on amounts invested conservatively in long-term investment grade corporate bonds for the month preceding the beginning of the plan year for which premiums are being paid. Thus, the required interest rate to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning in May 2004 is 4.98 percent (i.e., 85 percent of the 5.86 percent composite corporate bond rate for April 2004 as determined by the Treasury).

The following table lists the required interest rates to be used in determining variable-rate premiums for premium payment years beginning between June 2003 and May 2004. Note that the required interest rates for premium payment years beginning in June through December 2003 were determined under the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002, and that the required interest rates for premium payment years beginning in January through May 2004 were determined under the Pension Funding Equity Act of 2004.

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*Any subsequent years included in the period of performance and cost comparison shall continue to use the 2.0% figure, until otherwise revised by OMB.*

The pay rates (including geographic pay differentials) that are in effect for 2004 shall be included for the development of in-house personnel costs. The pay raise factors provided for 2005 and beyond shall be applied to all employees, with no assumption being made as to how they will be distributed between possible locality and base pay increases.

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Investment Company Act Release No. 26446; 812–13051**

**J.P. Morgan Investment Management Inc., et al., Notice of Application**


**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”).

**ACTION:** Notice of application for an order under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Act”) for an exemption from section 17(a) of the Act.

**Applicants:** J.P. Morgan Investment Management, Inc. ("JPMIM"), any other existing or future registered investment adviser which acts as investment adviser or subadviser to a Money Market Fund (defined below) and which controls, is controlled by, or is under common control (as defined in section 2(a)(9) of the Act) with J.P. Morgan Chase & Co. ("JPM") ("Future Advisers"), J.P. Morgan Securities Inc. ("JPMIS"), J.P. Morgan Mutual Fund Trust ("JPMFMT"), all existing and future Advisers as referred to collectively in this notice as the Advisers. Any Adviser that currently intends to rely on the requested order is named as an applicant in this application. Any other Adviser that relies on the order in the future will comply with the terms and conditions of this application.

1 JPMIM and the Future Advisers are referred to collectively in this notice as the Advisers. Any Adviser that currently intends to rely on the requested order is named as an applicant in this application. Any other Adviser that relies on the order in the future will comply with the terms and conditions of this application.

**The required interest rates for premium payment years beginning in June through December 2003 were determined under the Job Creation and Worker Assistance Act of 2002.**