

published a notice of availability and opportunity for comment on the draft Interim Staff Guidance Regarding the Review of Research and Test Reactor License Renewal Applications. When the comment period ended on July 16, 2009, one comment was received. The commenter cited practices of another federal agency that allowed for informal transmittal of information which, if applied to the license renewal process for research reactors, could result in improvements in efficiency. The staff considered the comment and notes that whenever possible less formal means are used. However, in license renewal matters most communication is a matter of official record. Under NRC regulations regarding internal rules and procedures an official record must be maintained.

Because there are no other comments on the draft guidance that was published, no major changes were initiated. Minor editorial corrections and enhancements were made to the document and it has been re-published and made available to the public by the means described above.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 28th day of October 2009.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Kathryn M. Brock,**

*Chief, Research and Test Reactor Branch A, Division of Policy and Rulemaking, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

[FR Doc. E9-26535 Filed 11-3-09; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

*Upon Written Request, Copies Available*

From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Investor Education and Advocacy, Washington, DC 20549-0213.

#### Extension:

Rule 154, SEC File No. 270-438, OMB Control No. 3235-0495.

Notice is hereby given that, under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

The federal securities laws generally prohibit an issuer, underwriter, or dealer from delivering a security for sale unless a prospectus meeting certain requirements accompanies or precedes

the security. Rule 154 (17 CFR 230.154) under the Securities Act of 1933 (15 U.S.C. 77a) (the "Securities Act") permits, under certain circumstances, delivery of a single prospectus to investors who purchase securities from the same issuer and share the same address ("householding") to satisfy the applicable prospectus delivery requirements.<sup>1</sup> The purpose of rule 154 is to reduce the amount of duplicative prospectuses delivered to investors sharing the same address.

Under rule 154, a prospectus is considered delivered to all investors at a shared address, for purposes of the Federal securities laws, if the person relying on the rule delivers the prospectus to the shared address and the investors consent to the delivery of a single prospectus. The rule applies to prospectuses and prospectus supplements. Currently, the rule permits householding of all prospectuses by an issuer, underwriter, or dealer relying on the rule if, in addition to the other conditions set forth in the rule, the issuer, underwriter, or dealer has obtained from each investor written or implied consent to householding.<sup>2</sup> The rule requires issuers, underwriters, or dealers that wish to household prospectuses with implied consent to send a notice to each investor stating that the investors in the household will receive one prospectus in the future unless the investors provide contrary instructions. In addition, at least once a year, issuers, underwriters, or dealers, relying on rule 154 for the householding of prospectuses relating to open-end management investment companies that are registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("mutual funds") must explain to investors who have provided written or implied consent how they can revoke their consent. Preparing and sending the notice and the annual explanation of the right to revoke are collections of information.

The rule allows issuers, underwriters, or dealers to household prospectuses if

<sup>1</sup> The Securities Act requires the delivery of prospectuses to investors who buy securities from an issuer or from underwriters or dealers who participate in a registered distribution of securities. See Securities Act sections 2(a)(10), 4(1), 4(3), 5(b) (15 U.S.C. 77b(a)(10), 77d(1), 77d(3), 77e(b)); see also rule 174 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.174) (regarding the prospectus delivery obligation of dealers); rule 15c2-8 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR 240.15c2-8) (prospectus delivery obligations of brokers and dealers).

<sup>2</sup> Rule 154 permits the householding of prospectuses that are delivered electronically to investors only if delivery is made to a shared electronic address and the investors give written consent to householding. Implied consent is not permitted in such a situation. See rule 154(b)(4).

certain conditions are met. Among the conditions with which a person relying on the rule must comply are providing notice to each investor that only one prospectus will be sent to the household and, in the case of issuers that are mutual funds, providing to each investor who consents to householding an annual explanation of the right to revoke consent to the delivery of a single prospectus to multiple investors sharing an address. The purpose of the notice and annual explanation requirements of the rule is to ensure that investors who wish to receive individual copies of prospectuses are able to do so.

Although rule 154 is not limited to mutual funds, the Commission believes that it is used mainly by mutual funds and by broker-dealers that deliver mutual fund prospectuses. The Commission is unable to estimate the number of issuers other than mutual funds that rely on the rule.

The Commission estimates that, as of December 2008, there are approximately 1,960 mutual funds, approximately 150 of which engage in direct marketing and therefore deliver their own prospectuses. The Commission estimates that each direct-marketed mutual fund will spend an average of 20 hours per year complying with the notice requirement of the rule, for a total of 3,000 hours. The Commission estimates that each direct-marketed fund will also spend 1 hour complying with the explanation of the right to revoke requirement of the rule, for a total of 150 hours. The Commission estimates that there are approximately 320 broker-dealers that carry customer accounts and, therefore, may be required to deliver mutual fund prospectuses. The Commission estimates that each affected broker-dealer will spend, on average, approximately 20 hours complying with the notice requirement of the rule, for a total of 6,400 hours. Each broker-dealer will also spend 1 hour complying with the annual explanation of the right to revoke requirement, for a total of 320 hours. Therefore, the total number of respondents for rule 154 is 470 (150 mutual funds plus 320 broker-dealers), and the estimated total hour burden is 9,870 hours (3,150 hours for mutual funds plus 6,720 hours for broker-dealers).

The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, and is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules and forms.

Compliance with the collection of information requirements of the rule is

necessary to obtain the benefit of relying on the rule. Responses to the collections of information will not be kept confidential. The rule does not require these records be retained for any specific period of time. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

Please direct general comments regarding the above information to the following persons: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503 or send an e-mail to Shagufta Ahmed at [Shagufta\\_Ahmed@omb.eop.gov](mailto:Shagufta_Ahmed@omb.eop.gov); and (ii) Charles Boucher, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, C/O Shirley Martinson 6432 General Green Way, Alexandria, Virginia 22312; or send an e-mail to: [PRA\\_Mailbox@sec.gov](mailto:PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov). Comments must be submitted to OMB within 30 days of this notice.

Dated: October 28, 2009.

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E9-26514 Filed 11-3-09; 8:45 am]

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 28987; 812-13482]

### MFS Government Markets Income Trust et al.; Notice of Application

October 29, 2009.

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

**ACTION:** Notice of application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 ("Act") for an exemption from section 19(b) of the Act and rule 19b-1 under the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** Applicants request an order to permit certain closed-end investment companies to make periodic distributions of long-term capital gains with respect to their outstanding common stock as frequently as twelve times each year, and as frequently as distributions are specified by or in accordance with the terms of any outstanding preferred stock that such investment companies may issue.

**APPLICANTS:** MFS Government Markets Income Trust, MFS Intermediate Income Trust (together, the "Current Funds"), and Massachusetts Financial Services Company (the "Adviser").

**FILING DATES:** January 22, 2008, February 9, 2009 and May 27, 2009.

**HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:** An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on November 23, 2009, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, 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 who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090; Applicants, c/o Massachusetts Financial Services Company, 500 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Mark N. Polebaum, Esq.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Wendy Friedlander, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-6837, or James M. Curtis, Branch Chief, at (202) 551-6825 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Chief Counsel).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained via the Commission's Web site by searching for the file number, or for an applicant using the Company name box, at <http://www.sec.gov/search/search.htm>, or by calling (202) 551-8090.

#### *Applicants' Representations:*

1. The Current Funds are registered closed-end management investment companies organized as Massachusetts business trusts. The Current Funds' primary investment objective is to provide high current income, and their secondary investment objective is capital appreciation.<sup>1</sup> The common stock of the Current Funds is listed and traded on the New York Stock Exchange. The Current Funds have not

<sup>1</sup> Applicants request that any order issued granting the relief requested in the application also apply to any closed-end investment company ("future fund") that in the future: (a) Is advised by the Adviser (including any successor in interest) or by any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control (within the meaning of section 2(a)(9) of the Act) with the Adviser; and (b) complies with the terms and conditions of the requested order. A successor in interest is limited to entities that result from a reorganization into another jurisdiction or a change in the type of business organization.

issued preferred stock. Applicants believe that the stockholders of the Current Funds may prefer an investment vehicle that provides regular/monthly distributions.

2. The Adviser is a Delaware corporation and is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. The Adviser is the investment adviser for the Current Funds. The Adviser is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sun Life of Canada (U.S.) Financial Services Holdings, Inc., which is an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Sun Life Financial Inc.

3. Applicants represent that in 2007 each Current Fund adopted a level-distribution policy with respect to its common stock. Applicants represent that at that time each Current Fund had substantial capital loss carryforwards and realized and unrealized net capital losses in its portfolio sufficient to offset the Current Fund's long-term capital gains for a period of time. Applicants represent that the Adviser believes that each of the Current Funds will be able to continue to make distributions in accordance with its respective existing distribution policy for the time being without exceeding applicable limits in the Act on long-term capital gains distributions. Applicants represent that the Current Funds will make distributions of long-term capital gains more frequently than the applicable limits under the Act only if the requested order is granted. Applicants represent that any such distributions made in reliance on the order will comply with the terms and conditions of this application.

4. Applicants represent that prior to making distributions in reliance on the requested order, the Board of a fund, including a majority of the trustees who are not "interested persons" of the fund, as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act (the "Independent Trustees"), will have:

(1) Approved the fund's adoption of the distribution policy ("Plan");

(2) Requested and evaluated, and the Adviser shall have furnished, such information as may be reasonably necessary for an informed determination of whether the Plan should be adopted and implemented;

(3) Determined that adoption and implementation of the Plan is consistent with the fund's investment objective(s) and policies and in the best interests of the fund and its shareholders, after considering the information in (2) above, including, without limitation:

(i) The purpose(s) of the Plan as stated in this application,

(ii) Information about any potential or actual conflicts of interest that the Adviser, any affiliated person of the