

Jun-06-03 02:55pm From-
Manager
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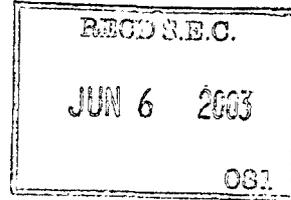
Cert NYS



1-31694



June 6, 2003



Mr. Brian Johnson
Branch Chief
Securities and Exchange Commission
Branch of Filer Support 2
Room 1004 -- STOP/1-4
450 Fifth Street, NW
Judiciary Plaza
Washington, DC 20549

PROCESSED

JUN 11 2003

**THOMSON
FINANCIAL**

Dear Mr. Johnson:

The New York Stock Exchange certifies approval for listing and registration under the Securities Exchange Act of 1933, John Hancock Preferred Income Fund III, Common Shares of beneficial interest, no par value. The NYSE requests simultaneous acceleration of registration of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, together with the 1933 Act. Adequate distribution assured. Form 8-A received on June 6, 2003. Tentative listing date – June 18, 2003.

Sincerely,

Paras Mehta