

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Investment Company Act Release No. 34443; File No. 812-15124

Neuberger Berman BDC LLC, et al.

December 16, 2021

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”).

ACTION: Notice.

Notice of application for an order under sections 17(d) and 57(i) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Act”) and rule 17d-1 under the Act to permit certain joint transactions otherwise prohibited by sections 17(d) and 57(a)(4) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act.

Summary of Application: Applicants request an order to permit certain business development companies (“BDCs”) and closed-end management investment companies to co-invest in portfolio companies with each other and with certain affiliated investment funds and accounts.

Applicants: Neuberger Berman BDC LLC (“NBBDC”); NB Private Markets Fund II (Master) LLC (“NB Private Markets II”); NB Private Markets Fund III (Master) LLC (“NB Private Markets III”); NB Crossroads Private Markets Fund IV Holdings LLC (“NB Private Markets IV”); NB Crossroads Private Markets Fund V Holdings LP (“NB Private Markets V”); NB Crossroads Private Markets Fund VI Holdings LP (“NB Private Markets VI”); NB Crossroads Private Markets Fund VII Holdings LP (“NB Private Markets VII”); NB Crossroads Private Markets Access Fund LLC (“NB Private Markets Access” and, together with NB Private Markets II, NB Private Markets III, NB Private Markets IV, NB Private Markets V, NB Private Markets VI, and NB Private Markets VII, the “Existing Regulated Funds”); NB Alternatives Advisers LLC (“NBAA”); Neuberger Berman Investment Advisers LLC (“NBIA”); Columbia NB Crossroads Fund II LP; Golden Road Capital Pooling L.P.; MEP Opportunities Fund Holdings LP; NB - Iowa’s Public Universities LP; NB 1 PE

Investment Holdings LP; NB 1911 LP; NB AGI PE Portfolio II Fund LP; NB ASGA Fund Holdings LP; NB AYAME Holdings LP; NB Blue Ensign Fund LP; NB Caspian Holdings LP; NB CPEG Fund Holdings LP; NB Credit Opportunities Co-Invest Affordable Care I LP; NB Credit Opportunities Co-Invest I LP; NB Credit Opportunities Fund II LP; NB Credit Opportunities II Cayman LP; NB Credit Opportunities II Co-Investment Fund (Cayman) LP; NB Credit Opportunities II Co-Investment (Whistler) LP; NB Crossroads 23 LC Holdings LP; NB Crossroads 23 MC Holdings LP; NB Crossroads 23 SS Holdings LP; NB Crossroads 23 VC Holdings LP; NB Crossroads 24 LC Holdings LP; NB Crossroads 24 MC Holdings LP; NB Crossroads 24 SS Holdings LP; NB Crossroads 24 VC Holdings LP; NB Crossroads XXII – MC Holdings LP; NB Crossroads XXII – VC Holdings LP; NB Crystal PE Holdings LP; NB Enhanced Income Holdings LP; NB Enstar PE Opportunities Fund, LP; NB Euro Crossroads 2018 Holdings SCSP; NB Euro Crossroads 2021 Holdings SCSP; NB Flamingo Private Debt LP; NB Flat Corner PE Holdings LP; NB Gemini Fund LP; NB Granite Private Debt LP; NB Greencastle LP; NB Initium Infrastructure (Eur) Holdings LP; NB Initium Infrastructure (USD) Holdings LP; NB Initium PE (Eur) Holdings LP; NB Initium PE (USD) Holdings LP; NB K-P Loan Partners LP; NB Oak LP; NB PA Co-Investment Fund LP; NB PD III Holdings (LO) LP; NB PD III Holdings (LS) LP; NB PD III Holdings (UO) LP; NB PD III Holdings (US) LP; NB PD IV Equity LP; NB PD IV Holdings (LO-A) LP; NB PD IV Holdings (LS-A) LP; NB PD IV Holdings (US-A) (Levered) LP; NB PD IV Holdings (US-B) (Unlevered) LP; NB PD IV Holdings (UO-A) LP; NB PEP Holdings Limited; NB Pinnacle Assurance Fund LP; NB Private Debt Fund LP; NB Private Debt II Holdings LP; NB Private Equity Credit Opportunities Holdings LP; NB Private Package LP; NB Rembrandt Holdings 2018 LP; NB Rembrandt Holdings 2020 LP; NB Rembrandt Holdings 2022 LP; NB Renaissance Partners Holdings S.A R.L.; NB RESOF Holdings LP; NB RESOF II Cayman Holdings LP; NB

RESOF II Holdings LP; NB Resof SP1 LP; NB RP Co-Investment & Secondary Fund LLC; NB RPPE Partners LP; NB SBS US 3 Fund LP; NB Select Opps III MHF LP; NB Select Opps IV MHF LP; NB Select Opps V MHF LP; NB SHP Fund Holdings LP; NB Si-Apollo Sengai Fund Holdings LP; NB SOF III Holdings LP; NB SOF IV Cayman Holdings LP; NB SOF IV Holdings LP; NB SOF V Cayman Holdings LP; NB SOF V Holdings LP; NB Sonoran Fund Limited Partnership; NB Star Buyout Strategy 2020 Holdings Ltd; NB Star Buyout Strategy 2021 Holdings Ltd; NB Strategic Capital LP; NB Strategic Co-Investment Partners IV Holdings LP; NB TCC Strategic Holdings LP; NB Wildcats Fund LP; NB ZCF LP; NBAL Holdings LP; NBFOF Impact - Holdings LP; NBPD III Equity Co-Invest Holdings A LP; NB-Sompo RA Holdings LP; Neub Holdings LP; Neub Infrastructure Holdings LP; Neuberger Berman / New Jersey Custom Investment Fund III LP; NYC-Northbound Emerging Managers Program LP; NYSCRF NB Co-Investment Fund LLC; NYSCRF NB Co-Investment Fund II LLC; Olive Cayman Holdings Ltd; PECO-PD III Borrower LP; SJFED Private Equity Strategic Partnership, L.P.; SJPF Private Equity Strategic Partnership, L.P.; Soleil 2020 Cayman Holdings Ltd; Sunberg PE Opportunities Fund LLC; Sunbern Alternative Opportunities Fund LLC; and Toranomom Private Equity 1, L.P.

Filing Dates: The application was filed on April 17, 2020, and amended on September 11, 2020, January 22, 2021, August 6, 2021, and November 18, 2021.

Hearing or Notification of Hearing: An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by e-mailing the Commission's Secretary at [Secretarys-Office@sec.gov](mailto:Secretarys-Office@sec.gov) and serving applicants with a copy of the request, by e-mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on January 10, 2022, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the applicants, in the form of an affidavit, or for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0-5 under the Act, hearing

requests should state the nature of the writer’s interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by e-mailing the Commission’s Secretary at [Secretarys-Office@sec.gov](mailto:Secretarys-Office@sec.gov).

Addresses: The Commission: [Secretarys-Office@sec.gov](mailto:Secretarys-Office@sec.gov). Applicants: [corey.issing@nb.com](mailto:corey.issing@nb.com).

For Further Information Contact: Kieran G. Brown, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-6773 or Terri G. Jordan, Branch Chief, at (202) 551-6825 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel’s Office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained via the Commission’s website 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.

Introduction:

1. The applicants request an order of the Commission under sections 17(d) and 57(i) and rule 17d-1 thereunder (the “Order”) to permit, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the application (the “Conditions”), a Regulated Fund<sup>1</sup> and one or more other Regulated Funds and/or one or more Affiliated Funds<sup>2</sup> to enter into Co-Investment Transactions with each other.

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<sup>1</sup> “Regulated Funds” means NBBDC, any Existing Regulated Fund and any Future Regulated Fund. “Future Regulated Fund” means a closed-end management investment company formed in the future (a) that is registered under the Act or has elected to be regulated as a BDC, (b) whose investment adviser (and sub-adviser, if any) is an Adviser, and (c) that intends to participate in the Co-investment Program. “Adviser” means NBAA and NBIA, together with any future investment adviser that (i) controls, is controlled by or is under common control with NBAA or NBIA, as applicable, (ii) is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (“Advisers Act”), and (iii) is not a Regulated Fund or a subsidiary of a Regulated Fund.

<sup>2</sup> “Affiliated Fund” means the Existing Affiliated Funds (identified in Appendix A to the application), the Existing NB Proprietary Accounts (as defined below), any Future NB Proprietary Account, and any entity formed in the future (a) whose investment adviser (and sub-adviser, if any) is an Adviser, (b) that either (i) would be an investment company but for section 3(c)(1), 3(c)(5)(C) or 3(c)(7) of the Act or (ii)

“Co-Investment Transaction” means any transaction in which a Regulated Fund (or its Wholly-Owned Investment Sub) participated together with one or more Regulated Funds and/or one or more Affiliated Funds in reliance on the Order. “Potential Co-Investment Transaction” means any investment opportunity in which a Regulated Fund (or its Wholly-Owned Investment Sub) could not participate together with one or more other Regulated Funds and/or one or more Affiliated Funds without obtaining and relying on the Order.<sup>3</sup>

Applicants:

2. NBBDC was organized as a Maryland limited liability company and prior to relying on the relief requested in the application will file an election to be regulated as a BDC under the Act.<sup>4</sup> Following the election to be regulated as a BDC, NBBDC will be a closed-end management

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relies on rule 3a-7 under the Act, and (c) that intends to participate in the Co-Investment Program. “Future NB Proprietary Account” means any direct or indirect, wholly- or majority-owned subsidiary of NBAA, or any other Adviser, formed in the future that, from time to time, may hold various financial assets in a principal capacity. Affiliated Funds may include funds that are ultimately structured as collateralized loan obligation funds (“CLOs”). Such CLOs would be investment companies but for the exception provided in section 3(c)(7) of the Act or their ability to rely on rule 3a-7 of the Act. During the investment period of a CLO, the CLO may engage in certain transactions customary in CLO formations with another Affiliated Fund on a secondary basis at fair market value. For purposes of the Order, any securities that were acquired by an Affiliated Fund in a particular Co-Investment Transaction (as defined below) that are then transferred in such customary transactions to an Affiliated Fund that is or will become a CLO (an “Affiliated Fund CLO”) will be treated as if the Affiliated Fund CLO acquired such securities in the Co-Investment Transaction. For the avoidance of doubt, any such transfer from an Affiliated Fund to an Affiliated Fund CLO will be treated as a Disposition and completed pursuant to terms and conditions of the Application, though Applicants note that the Regulated Funds would be prohibited from participating in such Disposition by Section 17(a)(2) or Section 57(a)(2) of the Act, as applicable. The participation by any Affiliated Fund CLO in any such Co-Investment Transaction will remain subject to the Order.

<sup>3</sup> All existing entities that currently intend to rely on the Order have been named as applicants and any existing or future entities that may rely on the Order in the future will comply with the terms and Conditions set forth in the application.

<sup>4</sup> Section 2(a)(48) defines a BDC to be any closed-end investment company that operates for the purpose of making investments in securities described in section 55(a)(1) through 55(a)(3) and makes available significant managerial assistance with respect to the issuers of such securities.

investment company. NBBDC intends to have a Board,<sup>5</sup> a majority of which will be Independent Directors.<sup>6</sup> The Board will approve NBAA to serve as investment adviser to NBBDC prior to the commencement of NBBDC's operations and the reliance by NBBDC on the relief requested in the application.

3. NB Private Markets II was organized as a Delaware limited liability company and is a closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Board of NB Private Markets II has six members, each of whom is an Independent Director.

4. NB Private Markets III was organized as a Delaware limited liability company and is a closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Board of NB Private Markets III has six members, each of whom is an Independent Director.

5. NB Private Markets IV was organized as a Delaware limited liability company and is a closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Board of NB Private Markets IV has six members, each of whom is an Independent Director.

6. NB Private Markets V was organized as a Delaware limited partnership and is a closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Board of NB Private Markets V has six members, each of whom is an Independent Director.

7. NB Private Markets VI was organized as a Delaware limited partnership and is a closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Board of NB Private Markets VI has six members, each of whom is an Independent Director.

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<sup>5</sup> "Board" means with respect to a Regulated Fund, the board of directors (or the equivalent) of the Regulated Fund.

<sup>6</sup> "Independent Director" means a member of the Board of any relevant entity who is not an "interested person" as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act. No Independent Director of a Regulated Fund will have a financial interest in any Co-Investment Transaction, other than indirectly through share ownership in one of the Regulated Funds.

8. NB Private Markets VII was organized as a Delaware limited partnership and is a closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Board of NB Private Markets VII has six members, each of whom is an Independent Director.

9. NB Private Markets Access was organized as a Delaware limited liability company and is a closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Board of NB Private Markets Access has six members, each of whom is an Independent Director.

10. NBAA, a Delaware limited liability company that is registered under the Advisers Act: (i) is investment adviser to the Existing Affiliated Funds; (ii) will serve as investment adviser to NBBDC at the time NBBDC relies on the order requested in the application; and (iii) is sub-investment adviser to the Existing Regulated Funds. NBIA, a Delaware limited liability company that is registered as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act, serves as investment adviser to the Existing Regulated Funds and may serve as investment adviser to Future Regulated Funds. NBAA, and its direct and indirect wholly-owned subsidiaries, from time to time may hold various financial assets in a principal capacity (the “Existing NB Proprietary Accounts” and together with any Future NB Proprietary Account, the “NB Proprietary Accounts”).

11. The Existing Affiliated Funds are the investment funds identified in Appendix A to the application. Applicants represent that each Existing Affiliated Fund is a separate and distinct legal entity and each would be an investment company but for section 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the Act.

12. Each of the applicants may be deemed to be controlled by Neuberger Berman Group LLC (“NBG”). NBG owns controlling interests in the Advisers and, thus, may be deemed to control the Regulated Funds and the Affiliated Funds. Applicants state that NBG does not currently offer investment advisory services to any person and is not expected to do so in the future. Applicants state that as a result, NBG has not been included as an applicant. NBG’s voting equity

is owned by NBSH Acquisition, LLC (“NBSH”). NBSH is owned by current and former NBG employees, directors, consultants and, in certain instances, their permitted transferees.

13. Applicants state that a Regulated Fund may, from time to time, form one or more Wholly-Owned Investment Subs.<sup>7</sup> Such a subsidiary may be prohibited from investing in a Co-Investment Transaction with a Regulated Fund (other than its parent) or any Affiliated Fund because it would be a company controlled by its parent Regulated Fund for purposes of section 57(a)(4) and rule 17d-1. Applicants request that each Wholly-Owned Investment Sub be permitted to participate in Co-Investment Transactions in lieu of the Regulated Fund that owns it and that the Wholly-Owned Investment Sub’s participation in any such transaction be treated, for purposes of the Order, as though the parent Regulated Fund were participating directly. Applicants represent that this treatment is justified because a Wholly-Owned Investment Sub would have no purpose other than serving as a holding vehicle for the Regulated Fund’s investments and, therefore, no conflicts of interest could arise between the parent Regulated Fund and the Wholly-Owned Investment Sub. The Board of the parent Regulated Fund would make all relevant determinations under the Conditions with regard to a Wholly-Owned Investment Sub’s participation in a Co-Investment Transaction, and the Board would be informed of, and take into consideration, any proposed use of a Wholly-Owned Investment Sub in the Regulated Fund’s place. If the parent Regulated Fund proposes to participate in the same Co-Investment Transaction with any of its Wholly-Owned Investment Subs, the Board of the parent Regulated Fund will also be informed of,

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<sup>7</sup> “Wholly-Owned Investment Sub” means an entity (i) that is wholly-owned by NBBDC, an Existing Regulated Fund or a Future Regulated Fund (with such Regulated Fund at all times holding, beneficially and of record, 100% of the voting and economic interests); (ii) whose sole business purpose is to hold one or more investments on behalf of such Regulated Fund; (iii) with respect to which such Regulated Fund’s Board has the sole authority to make all determinations with respect to the entity’s participation under the Conditions; and (iv) that would be an investment company but for section 3(c)(1) or 3(c)(7) of the Act.



and take into consideration, the relative participation of the Regulated Fund and the Wholly-Owned Investment Sub.

Applicants' Representations:

A. Allocation Process

14. Applicants state that NBAA maintains relationships with more than 540 private equity firms across a diverse range of geographies, enterprise value sizes, industries and transaction types, and this broad coverage of the private equity space generates a significant volume of investment opportunities. Applicants state that, as a result, the Advisers must determine how to allocate those opportunities in a manner that is, over time, fair and equitable to all of their clients. Such investment opportunities may be Potential Co-Investment Transactions.

15. Applicants represent that the Advisers have established, and any future Advisers will establish, processes for allocating initial investment opportunities, opportunities for subsequent investments in an issuer and dispositions of securities holdings reasonably designed to treat all clients fairly and equitably over time. Further, applicants represent that these processes will be extended and modified in a manner reasonably designed to ensure that the additional transactions permitted under the Order will both (i) be fair and equitable to the Regulated Funds and the Affiliated Funds and (ii) comply with the Conditions.

16. Specifically, applicants state that the Advisers are organized and managed such that investment committees ("Investment Committees") responsible for evaluating investment opportunities and making investment decisions on behalf of Regulated Funds and other clients employing similar strategies are promptly notified of the opportunities. If the requested Order is granted, the Advisers will establish, maintain and implement policies and procedures reasonably designed to ensure that, when such opportunities arise, the Advisers to the relevant Regulated Funds

are promptly notified and receive the same information about the opportunity as any other Advisers considering the opportunity for their clients. In particular, consistent with Condition 1, if a Potential Co-Investment Transaction falls within the then-current Objectives and Strategies<sup>8</sup> and any Board-Established Criteria<sup>9</sup> of a Regulated Fund, the policies and procedures will require that the Adviser to such Regulated Fund receives sufficient information to allow such Adviser's Investment Committee to make its independent determination and recommendations under the Conditions.

17. The Adviser to each applicable Regulated Fund will then make an independent determination of the appropriateness of the investment for the Regulated Fund in light of the Regulated Fund's then-current circumstances. If the Adviser to a Regulated Fund deems the Regulated Fund's participation in such Potential Co-Investment Transaction to be appropriate, then it will formulate a recommendation regarding the proposed order amount for the Regulated Fund.

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<sup>8</sup> "Objectives and Strategies" means with respect to any Regulated Fund, its investment objectives and strategies, as described in its most current registration statement on Form N-2, other current filings with the Commission under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") or under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and its most current report to stockholders.

<sup>9</sup> "Board-Established Criteria" means criteria that the Board of a Regulated Fund may establish from time to time to describe the characteristics of Potential Co-Investment Transactions regarding which the Adviser to the Regulated Fund should be notified under Condition 1. The Board-Established Criteria will be consistent with the Regulated Fund's Objectives and Strategies. If no Board-Established Criteria are in effect, then the Regulated Fund's Adviser will be notified of all Potential Co-Investment Transactions that fall within the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies. Board-Established Criteria will be objective and testable, meaning that they will be based on observable information, such as industry/sector of the issuer, minimum EBITDA of the issuer, asset class of the investment opportunity or required commitment size, and not on characteristics that involve a discretionary assessment. The Adviser to the Regulated Fund may from time to time recommend criteria for the Board's consideration, but Board-Established Criteria will only become effective if approved by a majority of the Independent Directors. The Independent Directors of a Regulated Fund may at any time rescind, suspend or qualify their approval of any Board-Established Criteria, although applicants anticipate that, under normal circumstances, a Board would not modify these criteria more often than quarterly.

18. Applicants state that, for each Regulated Fund and Affiliated Fund whose Adviser recommends participating in a Potential Co-Investment Transaction, the applicable Investment Committee will approve the investment and the investment amount. Prior to the External Submission (as defined below), each proposed order or investment amount may be reviewed and adjusted, in accordance with the applicable Advisers' written allocation policies and procedures, by the Advisers' Investment Committee.<sup>10</sup> The order of a Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund resulting from this process is referred to as its "Internal Order." The Internal Order will be submitted for approval by the Required Majority of any participating Regulated Funds in accordance with the Conditions.<sup>11</sup>

19. Applicants acknowledge that some of the Affiliated Funds may not be funds advised by Advisers to Affiliated Funds<sup>12</sup> because they are NB Proprietary Accounts. Applicants do not believe participation by these NB Proprietary Accounts should raise issues under the Conditions because the allocation policies and procedures of the Advisers provide that investment opportunities are offered to client accounts before they are offered to NB Proprietary Accounts.

20. If the aggregate Internal Orders for a Potential Co-Investment Transaction do not exceed the size of the investment opportunity immediately prior to the submission of the orders to the underwriter, broker, dealer or issuer, as applicable (the "External Submission"), then each Internal Order will be fulfilled as placed and to the extent there is excess amount available to invest,

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<sup>10</sup> The reason for any such adjustment to a proposed order will be documented in writing and preserved in the records of each Adviser.

<sup>11</sup> "Required Majority" means a "required majority" as defined in section 57(o) of the Act. In the case of a Regulated Fund that is a registered closed-end fund, the Board members that make up the Required Majority will be determined as if the Regulated Fund were a BDC subject to section 57(o).

<sup>12</sup> "Advisers to Affiliated Funds" means NBAA, NBIA and any other Adviser that, in the future, serves as investment adviser (or sub-adviser, if any) to one or more Affiliated Funds.

the NB Proprietary Accounts will be permitted to invest. If, on the other hand, the aggregate Internal Orders for a Potential Co-Investment Transaction exceed the size of the investment opportunity immediately prior to the External Submission, then the allocation of the opportunity will be made pro rata on the basis of the size of the Internal Orders and the NB Proprietary Accounts will not be permitted to invest.<sup>13</sup> If, subsequent to such External Submission, the size of the opportunity is increased or decreased, or if the terms of such opportunity, or the facts and circumstances applicable to the Regulated Funds' or the Affiliated Funds' consideration of the opportunity, change, the participants will be permitted to submit revised Internal Orders in accordance with written allocation policies and procedures that the Advisers will establish, implement and maintain.<sup>14</sup>

B. Follow-On Investments

21. Applicants state that from time to time the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds may have opportunities to make Follow-On Investments<sup>15</sup> in an issuer in which a Regulated Fund and one or more other Regulated Funds and/or Affiliated Funds previously have invested.

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<sup>13</sup> The Advisers will maintain records of all proposed order amounts, Internal Orders and External Submissions in conjunction with Potential Co-Investment Transactions. Each applicable Adviser will provide the Eligible Directors with information concerning the Affiliated Funds' and Regulated Funds' order sizes to assist the Eligible Directors with their review of the applicable Regulated Fund's investments for compliance with the Conditions. "Eligible Directors" means, with respect to a Regulated Fund and a Potential Co-Investment Transaction, the members of the Regulated Fund's Board eligible to vote on that Potential Co-Investment Transaction under section 57(o) of the Act.

<sup>14</sup> However, if the size of the opportunity is decreased such that the aggregate of the original Internal Orders would exceed the amount of the remaining investment opportunity, then upon submitting any revised order amount to the Board of a Regulated Fund for approval, the Adviser to the Regulated Fund will also notify the Board promptly of the amount that the Regulated Fund would receive if the remaining investment opportunity were allocated pro rata on the basis of the size of the original Internal Orders. The Board of the Regulated Fund will then either approve or disapprove of the investment opportunity in accordance with Condition 2, 6, 7, 8 or 9, as applicable.

<sup>15</sup> "Follow-On Investment" means an additional investment in the same issuer, including, but not limited to, through the exercise of warrants, conversion privileges or other rights to purchase securities of the issuer.

22. Applicants propose that Follow-On Investments would be divided into two categories depending on whether the prior investment was a Co-Investment Transaction or a Pre-Boarding Investment.<sup>16</sup> If the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds had previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer, then the terms and approval of the Follow-On Investment would be subject to the Standard Review Follow-Ons described in Condition 8. If the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds have not previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer but hold a Pre-Boarding Investment, then the terms and approval of the Follow-On Investment would be subject to the Enhanced-Review Follow-Ons described in Condition 9. All Enhanced Review Follow-Ons require the approval of the Required Majority. For a given issuer, the participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds must comply with the requirements of Enhanced-Review Follow-Ons only for the first Co-Investment Transaction. Subsequent Co-Investment Transactions with respect to the issuer would be governed by the requirements of Standard Review Follow-Ons.

23. A Regulated Fund would be permitted to invest in a Standard Review Follow-On either with the approval of the Required Majority under Condition 8(c) or without obtaining the prior approval of the Required Majority if the Standard Review Follow-On is (i) a Pro Rata Follow-On Investment<sup>17</sup> and meets the other requirements of Condition 8(b)(i) or (ii) a Non-Negotiated

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<sup>16</sup> “Pre-Boarding Investments” are investments in an issuer held by a Regulated Fund as well as one or more other Regulated Funds and/or one or more Affiliated Funds that were acquired prior to participating in any Co-Investment Transaction in: (i) transactions in which the only term negotiated by or on behalf of such funds was price in reliance on one of the JT No-Action Letters (defined below); or (ii) transactions occurring at least 90 days apart and without coordination between the Regulated Fund and any Affiliated Fund or other Regulated Fund.

<sup>17</sup> A “Pro Rata Follow-On Investment” is a Follow-On Investment in which (i) the participation of each Regulated Fund and each Affiliated Fund is proportionate to its outstanding investments in the issuer or security, as appropriate, immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment, and (ii), in the case of a Regulated Fund, a majority of such fund’s Board has approved the Regulated Fund’s participation in the pro rata Follow-On Investment as being in the best interests of the Regulated Fund. The Regulated Fund’s Board

Follow-On Investment.<sup>18</sup> Applicants believe that these Pro Rata Follow-On Investments and Non-Negotiated Follow-On Investments do not present a significant opportunity for overreaching on the part of any Adviser and thus do not warrant the time or attention of the Board. Pro Rata Follow-On Investments and Non-Negotiated Follow-On Investments remain subject to the Board's periodic review in accordance with Condition 10.

C. Dispositions

24. Applicants propose that Dispositions<sup>19</sup> would be divided into two categories. If the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds holding investments in an issuer had previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer, then the terms and approval of the Disposition would be subject to the Standard Review Dispositions described in Condition 6. If the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds have not previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer but hold a Pre-Boarding Investment, then the terms and approval of the Disposition would be subject to the Enhanced Review Dispositions described in Condition 7. Subsequent Dispositions with respect to the same issuer would be governed by Condition 6 under the Standard Review Dispositions.<sup>20</sup>

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may refuse to approve, or at any time rescind, suspend or qualify, its approval of Pro Rata Follow-On Investments, in which case all subsequent Follow-On Investments will be submitted to the Regulated Fund's Eligible Directors in accordance with Condition 8(c).

<sup>18</sup> A "Non-Negotiated Follow-On Investment" is a Follow-On Investment in which a Regulated Fund participates together with one or more other Regulated Funds and/or one or more Affiliated Funds (i) in which the only term negotiated by or on behalf of the funds is price and (ii) with respect to which, if the transaction were considered on its own, the funds would be entitled to rely on one of the JT No-Action Letters. "JT No-Action Letters" means SMC Capital, Inc., SEC No-Action Letter (pub. avail. Sept. 5, 1995) and Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, SEC No-Action Letter (pub. avail. June 7, 2000).

<sup>19</sup> "Disposition" means the sale, exchange or other disposition of an interest in a security of an issuer.

<sup>20</sup> However, with respect to an issuer, if a Regulated Fund's first Co-Investment Transaction is an Enhanced Review Disposition and the Regulated Fund does not dispose of its entire position in the Enhanced Review Disposition, then before such Regulated Fund may complete its first Standard Review Follow-On in such issuer, the Eligible Directors must review the proposed Follow-On Investment not only on a stand-alone basis but also in relation to the total economic exposure in such issuer (i.e., in combination with the portion

25. A Regulated Fund may participate in a Standard Review Disposition either with the approval of the Required Majority under Condition 6(d) or without obtaining the prior approval of the Required Majority if (i) the Disposition is a Pro Rata Disposition<sup>21</sup> and meets the other requirements of Condition 6(c)(i); or (ii) the securities are Tradable Securities<sup>22</sup> and the Disposition meets the other requirements of Condition 6(c)(ii). Pro Rata Dispositions and Dispositions of a Tradable Security remain subject to the Board’s periodic review in accordance with Condition 10.

D. Delayed Settlement

26. Applicants represent that under the terms and Conditions of the application, all Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds participating in a Co-Investment Transaction will invest at the same time, for the same price and with the same terms, conditions, class, registration rights and any other rights, so that no such fund receives terms more favorable than any other. However, the settlement date for an Affiliated Fund in a Co-Investment Transaction may occur up to ten business

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of the Pre-Boarding Investment not disposed of in the Enhanced Review Disposition) and the other terms of the investments. This additional review would be required because such findings would not have been required in connection with the prior Enhanced Review Disposition, but would have been required had the first Co-Investment Transaction been an Enhanced Review Follow-On.

<sup>21</sup> A “Pro Rata Disposition” is a Disposition in which (i) the participation of each Regulated Fund and each Affiliated Fund is proportionate to its outstanding investment in the security subject to Disposition immediately preceding the Disposition; and (ii) in the case of a Regulated Fund, a majority of the Board has approved the Regulated Fund’s participation in pro rata Dispositions as being in the best interests of the Regulated Fund. The Regulated Fund’s Board may refuse to approve, or at any time rescind, suspend or qualify, its approval of Pro Rata Dispositions, in which case all subsequent Dispositions will be submitted to the Regulated Fund’s Eligible Directors.

<sup>22</sup> “Tradable Security” means a security that at the time of Disposition: (i) trades on a national securities exchange or designated offshore securities market as defined in rule 902(b) under the Securities Act; (ii) is not subject to restrictive agreements with the issuer or other security holders; and (iii) trades with sufficient volume and liquidity (findings as to which are documented by the Advisers to any Regulated Funds holding investments in the issuer and retained for the life of the Regulated Fund) to allow each Regulated Fund to dispose of its entire position remaining after the proposed Disposition within a short period of time not exceeding 30 days at approximately the value (as defined by section 2(a)(41) of the Act) at which the Regulated Fund has valued the investment.

days after the settlement date for the Regulated Fund, and vice versa.<sup>23</sup> Nevertheless, in all cases, (i) the date on which the commitment of the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds is made will be the same even where the settlement date is not and (ii) the earliest settlement date and the latest settlement date of any Regulated Fund and Affiliated Fund participating in the transaction will occur within ten business days of each other.

E.  Holders

27. Under Condition 15, if an Adviser, its principals, or any person controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Adviser or its principals, and the Affiliated Funds (collectively, the “Holders”) own in the aggregate more than 25 percent of the outstanding voting shares of a Regulated Fund (the “Shares”), then the Holders will vote such Shares in the same percentages as the Regulated Fund’s other shareholders (not including the Holders).

Applicants’ Legal Analysis:

1. Section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act prohibit participation by a registered investment company and an affiliated person in any “joint enterprise or other joint arrangement or profit-sharing plan,” as defined in the rule, without prior approval by the Commission by order upon application. Section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act are applicable to Regulated Funds that are registered closed-end investment companies.

2. Similarly, with regard to BDCs, section 57(a)(4) of the Act generally prohibits certain persons specified in section 57(b) from participating in joint transactions with the BDC or a company controlled by the BDC in contravention of rules as prescribed by the Commission.

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<sup>23</sup> Applicants state this may occur for two reasons. First, when the Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund is not yet fully funded because, when the Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund desires to make an investment, it must call capital from its investors to obtain the financing to make the investment, and in these instances, the notice requirement to call capital could be as much as ten business days. Second, where, for tax or regulatory reasons, a Regulated Fund or an Affiliated Fund does not purchase new issuances immediately upon issuance but only after a short seasoning period of up to ten business days.



Section 57(i) of the Act provides that, until the Commission prescribes rules under section 57(a)(4), the Commission's rules under section 17(d) of the Act applicable to registered closed-end investment companies will be deemed to apply to transactions subject to section 57(a)(4). Because the Commission has not adopted any rules under section 57(a)(4), rule 17d-1 also applies to joint transactions with Regulated Funds that are BDCs.

3. Co-Investment Transactions are prohibited by either or both of rule 17d-1 and section 57(a)(4) without a prior exemptive order of the Commission to the extent that the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds participating in such transactions fall within the category of persons described by rule 17d-1 and/or section 57(b), as applicable, vis-à-vis each participating Regulated Fund. Each of the participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds may be deemed to be "affiliated persons" vis-à-vis a Regulated Fund within the meaning of section 2(a)(3) of the Act by reason of common control because (i) the NBAA manages, and may be deemed to control, each of the Existing Affiliated Funds and any other Affiliated Fund will be managed by, and may be deemed to be controlled by, an Adviser to Affiliated Funds; (ii) at the time that NBBDC relies on the order requested in the application, NBAA will serve as investment adviser to NBBDC and may be deemed to control NBBDC; (iii) NBIA and NBAA currently serve as investment adviser and sub-adviser, respectively, to and may be deemed to control the Existing Regulated Funds, and an Adviser to Regulated Funds<sup>24</sup> will be the investment adviser (and sub-adviser, if any) to, and may be deemed to control, any Future Regulated Fund; and (iv) the Advisers to Regulated Funds and the Advisers to Affiliated Funds will be under common control. Thus, each of the Affiliated Funds could be deemed to be a person related to the Regulated Funds in a manner described by section

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<sup>24</sup> "Advisers to Regulated Funds" means NBAA and NBIA, with respect to their management of NBBDC and the Existing Regulated Funds, and any other Adviser that, in the future, serves as investment adviser (or sub-adviser, if any) to one or more Regulated Funds.

57(b) and related to the other Regulated Funds in a manner described by rule 17d-1; and therefore, the prohibitions of rule 17d-1 and section 57(a)(4) would apply respectively to prohibit the Affiliated Funds from participating in Co-Investment Transactions with the Regulated Funds. In addition, because the NB Proprietary Accounts are controlled by NBAA and, therefore, under common control with NBBDC, the Existing Regulated Funds, any future Advisers, and any Future Regulated Funds, the NB Proprietary Accounts could be deemed to be persons related to the Regulated Funds (or a company controlled by the Regulated Funds) in a manner described by section 57(b) and also prohibited from participating in the Co-Investment Program.

4. In passing upon applications under rule 17d-1, the Commission considers whether the company's participation in the joint transaction is consistent with the provisions, policies, and purposes of the Act and the extent to which such participation is on a basis different from or less advantageous than that of other participants.

5. Applicants state that in the absence of the requested relief, in many circumstances the Regulated Funds would be limited in their ability to participate in attractive and appropriate investment opportunities. Applicants state that, as required by rule 17d-1(b), the Conditions ensure that the terms on which Co-Investment Transactions may be made will be consistent with the participation of the Regulated Funds and on a basis that it is neither different from nor less advantageous than other participants, thus protecting the equity holders of any participant from being disadvantaged. Applicants further state that the Conditions ensure that all Co-Investment Transactions are reasonable and fair to the Regulated Funds and their stockholders and do not involve overreaching by any person concerned, including the Advisers. Applicants state that the Regulated Funds' participation in the Co-Investment Transactions in accordance with the Conditions will be consistent with the provisions, policies, and purposes of the Act and would be

done in a manner such that each Regulated Fund's participation is not different from, or less advantageous than, that of the other participants.

Applicants' Conditions:

Applicants agree that the Order will be subject to the following Conditions:

1. Identification and Referral of Potential Co-Investment Transactions

(a) The Advisers will establish, maintain and implement policies and procedures reasonably designed to ensure that each Adviser is promptly notified of all Potential Co-Investment Transactions that fall within the then-current Objectives and Strategies and Board-Established Criteria of any Regulated Fund the Adviser manages.

(b) When an Adviser to a Regulated Fund is notified of a Potential Co-Investment Transaction under Condition 1(a), the Adviser will make an independent determination of the appropriateness of the investment for the Regulated Fund in light of the Regulated Fund's then-current circumstances.

2. Board Approvals of Co-Investment Transactions

(a) If the Adviser deems a Regulated Fund's participation in any Potential Co-Investment Transaction to be appropriate for the Regulated Fund, it will then determine an appropriate level of investment for the Regulated Fund.

(b) If the aggregate amount recommended by the Advisers to be invested in the Potential Co-Investment Transaction by the participating Regulated Funds and any participating Affiliated Funds, collectively, exceeds the amount of the investment opportunity, the investment opportunity will be allocated among them pro rata based on the size of the Internal Orders, as described in section III.1.a.ii. of the application. Each Adviser to a participating Regulated Fund will promptly notify and provide the Eligible Directors with information concerning the Affiliated Funds' and

Regulated Funds' order sizes to assist the Eligible Directors with their review of the applicable Regulated Fund's investments for compliance with these Conditions.

(c) After making the determinations required in Condition 1(b), each Adviser to a participating Regulated Fund will distribute written information concerning the Potential Co-Investment Transaction (including the amount proposed to be invested by each participating Regulated Fund and each participating Affiliated Fund) to the Eligible Directors of its participating Regulated Fund(s) for their consideration. A Regulated Fund will enter into a Co-Investment Transaction with one or more other Regulated Funds or Affiliated Funds only if, prior to the Regulated Fund's participation in the Potential Co-Investment Transaction, a Required Majority concludes that:

(i) the terms of the transaction, including the consideration to be paid, are reasonable and fair to the Regulated Fund and its equity holders and do not involve overreaching in respect of the Regulated Fund or its equity holders on the part of any person concerned;

(ii) the transaction is consistent with:

(A) the interests of the Regulated Fund's equity holders; and

(B) the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies;

(iii) the investment by any other Regulated Fund(s) or Affiliated Fund(s) would not disadvantage the Regulated Fund, and participation by the Regulated Fund would not be on a basis different from, or less advantageous than, that of any other Regulated Fund(s) or Affiliated Fund(s) participating in the transaction; provided, that the Required Majority shall not be prohibited from reaching the conclusions required by this Condition 2(c)(iii) if:

(A) the settlement date for another Regulated Fund or an Affiliated Fund in a Co-Investment Transaction is later than the settlement date for the Regulated Fund by no more than ten business days or earlier than the settlement date for the Regulated Fund by no more than ten business days, in either case, so long as: (x) the date on which the commitment of the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds is made is the same and (y) the earliest settlement date and the latest settlement date of any Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund participating in the transaction will occur within ten business days of each other; or

(B) any other Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund, but not the Regulated Fund itself, gains the right to nominate a director for election to a portfolio company's board of directors, the right to have a board observer or any similar right to participate in the governance or management of the portfolio company so long as: (x) the Eligible Directors will have the right to ratify the selection of such director or board observer, if any; (y) the Adviser agrees to, and does, provide periodic reports to the Regulated Fund's Board with respect to the actions of such director or the information received by such board observer or obtained through the exercise of any similar right to participate in the governance or management of the portfolio company; and (z) any fees or other compensation that any other Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund, or any affiliated person of any other Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund, receives in connection with the right of one or more Regulated Funds or Affiliated Funds to nominate a director or appoint a board observer or otherwise to participate in the governance or management of the portfolio company will be shared proportionately among any participating Affiliated Funds (who may, in turn, share their portion with

their affiliated persons) and any participating Regulated Fund(s) in accordance with the amount of each such party's investment; and

(iv) the proposed investment by the Regulated Fund will not involve compensation, remuneration or a direct or indirect<sup>25</sup> financial benefit to the Advisers, any other Regulated Fund, the Affiliated Funds or any affiliated person of any of them (other than the parties to the Co-Investment Transaction), except (A) to the extent permitted by Condition 14, (B) to the extent permitted by section 17(e) or 57(k), as applicable, (C) indirectly, as a result of an interest in the securities issued by one of the parties to the Co-Investment Transaction or (D) in the case of fees or other compensation described in Condition 2(c)(iii)(B).

3. Right to Decline. Each Regulated Fund has the right to decline to participate in any Potential Co-Investment Transaction or to invest less than the amount proposed.

4. General Limitation. Except for Follow-On Investments made in accordance with Conditions 8 and 9,<sup>26</sup> a Regulated Fund will not invest in reliance on the Order in any issuer in which a Related Party has an investment.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> For example, procuring the Regulated Fund's investment in a Potential Co-Investment Transaction to permit an affiliate to complete or obtain better terms in a separate transaction would constitute an indirect financial benefit.

<sup>26</sup> This exception applies only to Follow-On Investments by a Regulated Fund in issuers in which such Regulated Fund already holds investments.

<sup>27</sup> "Related Party" means (i) any Close Affiliate and (ii) in respect of matters as to which any Adviser has knowledge, any Remote Affiliate. "Close Affiliate" means the Advisers, the Regulated Funds, the Affiliated Funds and any other person described in section 57(b) (after giving effect to rule 57b-1) in respect of any Regulated Fund (treating any registered investment company or series thereof as a BDC for this purpose), except for limited partners included solely by reason of the reference in section 57(b) to section 2(a)(3)(D). "Remote Affiliate" means any person described in section 57(e) in respect of any Regulated Fund (treating any registered investment company or series thereof as a BDC for this purpose) and any limited partner holding 5% or more of the relevant limited partner interests that would be a Close Affiliate but for the exclusion in the definition of such term.

5. Same Terms and Conditions. A Regulated Fund will not participate in any Potential Co-Investment Transaction unless (i) the terms, conditions, price, class of securities to be purchased, date on which the commitment is entered into and registration rights (if any) will be the same for each participating Regulated Fund and Affiliated Fund and (ii) the earliest settlement date and the latest settlement date of any participating Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund will occur as close in time as practicable and in no event more than ten business days apart. The grant to one or more Regulated Funds or Affiliated Funds, but not the respective Regulated Fund, of the right to nominate a director for election to a portfolio company's board of directors, the right to have an observer on the board of directors or similar rights to participate in the governance or management of the portfolio company will not be interpreted so as to violate this Condition 5, if Condition 2(c)(iii)(B) is met.

6. Standard Review Dispositions.

(a) *General.* If any Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund elects to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of an interest in a security and one or more Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds have previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer, then:

- (i) the Adviser to such Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund<sup>28</sup> will notify each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer of the proposed Disposition at the earliest practical time; and
- (ii) the Adviser to each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer will formulate a recommendation as to participation by such Regulated Fund in the Disposition.

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<sup>28</sup> Any NB Proprietary Account that is not advised by an Adviser is itself deemed to be an Adviser for purposes of Conditions 6(a)(i), 7(a)(i), 8(a)(i) and 9(a)(i).

(b) *Same Terms and Conditions.* Each Regulated Fund will have the right to participate in such Disposition on a proportionate basis, at the same price and on the same terms and conditions as those applicable to any other Regulated Fund and the Affiliated Funds.

(c) *No Board Approval Required.* A Regulated Fund may participate in such a Disposition without obtaining prior approval of the Required Majority if:

(i) (A) the participation of each Regulated Fund and Affiliated Fund in such Disposition is proportionate to its then-current holding of the security (or securities) of the issuer that is (or are) the subject of the Disposition;<sup>29</sup> (B) the Board of the Regulated Fund has approved as being in the best interests of the Regulated Fund the ability to participate in such Dispositions on a pro rata basis (as described in greater detail in the application); and (C) the Board of the Regulated Fund is provided on a quarterly basis with a list of all Dispositions made in accordance with this Condition 6; or

(ii) each security is a Tradable Security and (A) the Disposition is not to the issuer or any affiliated person of the issuer; and (B) the security is sold for cash in a transaction in which the only term negotiated by or on behalf of the participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds is price.

(d) *Standard Board Approval.* In all other cases, the Adviser will provide its written recommendation as to the Regulated Fund's participation to the Eligible Directors, and the Regulated Fund will participate in such Disposition solely to the extent that a Required Majority determines that it is in the Regulated Fund's best interests.

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<sup>29</sup> In the case of any Disposition, proportionality will be measured by each participating Regulated Fund's and Affiliated Fund's outstanding investment in the security in question immediately preceding the Disposition.



7. Enhanced Review Dispositions.

(a) *General.* If any Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund elects to sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of a Pre-Boarding Investment in a Potential Co-Investment Transaction and the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds have not previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer:

(i) the Adviser to such Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund will notify each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer of the proposed Disposition at the earliest practical time;

(ii) the Adviser to each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer will formulate a recommendation as to participation by such Regulated Fund in the Disposition; and

(iii) the Advisers will provide to the Board of each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer all information relating to the existing investments in the issuer of the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds, including the terms of such investments and how they were made, that is necessary for the Required Majority to make the findings required by this Condition 7.

(b) *Enhanced Board Approval.* The Adviser will provide its written recommendation as to the Regulated Fund's participation to the Eligible Directors, and the Regulated Fund will participate in such Disposition solely to the extent that a Required Majority determines that:

(i) the Disposition complies with Conditions 2(c)(i), (ii), (iii)(A) and (iv); and

(ii) the making and holding of the Pre-Boarding Investments were not prohibited by section 57 or rule 17d-1, as applicable, and records the basis for the finding in the Board minutes.

(c) *Additional Requirements.* The Disposition may only be completed in reliance on the Order if:

(i) *Same Terms and Conditions.* Each Regulated Fund has the right to participate in such Disposition on a proportionate basis, at the same price and on the same terms and Conditions as those applicable to any other Regulated Fund and the Affiliated Funds;

(ii) *Original Investments.* All of the Affiliated Funds' and Regulated Funds' investments in the issuer are Pre-Boarding Investments;

(iii) *Advice of Counsel.* Independent counsel to the Board advises that the making and holding of the investments in the Pre-Boarding Investments were not prohibited by section 57 (as modified by rule 57b-1) or rule 17d-1, as applicable;

(iv) *Multiple Classes of Securities.* All Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds that hold Pre-Boarding Investments in the issuer immediately before the time of completion of the Co-Investment Transaction hold the same security or securities of the issuer. For the purpose of determining whether the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds hold the same security or securities, they may disregard any security held by some but not all of them if, prior to relying on the Order, the Required Majority is presented with all information necessary to make a finding, and finds, that: (x) any Regulated Fund's or Affiliated Fund's holding of a different class of securities (including for this purpose a security with a different maturity date) is immaterial<sup>30</sup> in amount, including immaterial relative to the size of the issuer; and (y) the Board records the basis for any such finding in its minutes. In

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<sup>30</sup> In determining whether a holding is "immaterial" for purposes of the Order, the Required Majority will consider whether the nature and extent of the interest in the transaction or arrangement is sufficiently small that a reasonable person would not believe that the interest affected the determination of whether to enter into the transaction or arrangement or the terms of the transaction or arrangement.

addition, securities that differ only in respect of issuance date, currency or denominations may be treated as the same security; and

(v) *No Control*. The Affiliated Funds, the other Regulated Funds and their “affiliated persons” (within the meaning of section 2(a)(3)(C) of the Act), individually or in the aggregate, do not “control” the issuer of the securities (within the meaning of section 2(a)(9) of the Act).

8. Standard Review Follow-Ons.

(a) *General*. If any Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund desires to make a Follow-On Investment in an issuer and the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds holding investments in the issuer previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer:

(i) the Adviser to each such Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund will notify each Regulated Fund that holds securities of the portfolio company of the proposed transaction at the earliest practical time; and

(ii) the Adviser to each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer will formulate a recommendation as to the proposed participation, including the amount of the proposed investment, by such Regulated Fund.

(b) *No Board Approval Required*. A Regulated Fund may participate in the Follow-On Investment without obtaining prior approval of the Required Majority if:

(i) (A) the proposed participation of each Regulated Fund and each Affiliated Fund in such investment is proportionate to its outstanding investments in the issuer or the security at issue, as appropriate,<sup>31</sup> immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment; and

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<sup>31</sup> To the extent that a Follow-On Investment opportunity is in a security or arises in respect of a security held by the participating Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds, proportionality will be measured by each participating Regulated Fund’s and Affiliated Fund’s outstanding investment in the security in question

(B) the Board of the Regulated Fund has approved as being in the best interests of the Regulated Fund the ability to participate in Follow-On Investments on a pro rata basis (as described in greater detail in the application); or

(ii) it is a Non-Negotiated Follow-On Investment.

(c) *Standard Board Approval.* In all other cases, the Adviser will provide its written recommendation as to the Regulated Fund's participation to the Eligible Directors, and the Regulated Fund will participate in such Follow-On Investment solely to the extent that a Required Majority makes the determinations set forth in Condition 2(c). If the only previous Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer was an Enhanced Review Disposition, the Eligible Directors must complete this review of the proposed Follow-On Investment both on a stand-alone basis and together with the Pre-Boarding Investments in relation to the total economic exposure and other terms of the investment.

(d) *Allocation.* If, with respect to any such Follow-On Investment:

(i) the amount of the opportunity proposed to be made available to any Regulated Fund is not based on the Regulated Funds' and the Affiliated Funds' outstanding investments in the issuer or the security at issue, as appropriate, immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment; and

(ii) the aggregate amount recommended by the Advisers to be invested in the Follow-On Investment by the participating Regulated Funds and any participating Affiliated Funds, collectively, exceeds the amount of the investment opportunity, then the Follow-On

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immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment using the most recent available valuation thereof. To the extent that a Follow-On Investment opportunity relates to an opportunity to invest in a security that is not in respect of any security held by any of the participating Regulated Funds or Affiliated Funds, proportionality will be measured by each participating Regulated Fund's and Affiliated Fund's outstanding investment in the issuer immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment using the most recent available valuation thereof.

Investment opportunity will be allocated among them pro rata based on the size of the Internal Orders, as described in section III.1.a.ii of the application.

(e) *Other Conditions.* The acquisition of Follow-On Investments as permitted by this Condition 8 will be considered a Co-Investment Transaction for all purposes and subject to the other Conditions set forth in the application.

9. Enhanced Review Follow-Ons.

(a) *General.* If any Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund desires to make a Follow-On Investment in an issuer that is a Potential Co-Investment Transaction and the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds holding investments in the issuer have not previously participated in a Co-Investment Transaction with respect to the issuer:

(i) the Adviser to each such Regulated Fund or Affiliated Fund will notify each Regulated Fund that holds securities of the portfolio company of the proposed transaction at the earliest practical time;

(ii) the Adviser to each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer will formulate a recommendation as to the proposed participation, including the amount of the proposed investment, by such Regulated Fund; and

(iii) the Advisers will provide to the Board of each Regulated Fund that holds an investment in the issuer all information relating to the existing investments in the issuer of the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds, including the terms of such investments and how they were made, that is necessary for the Required Majority to make the findings required by this Condition 9.

(b) *Enhanced Board Approval.* The Adviser will provide its written recommendation as to the Regulated Fund's participation to the Eligible Directors, and the Regulated Fund will participate

in such Follow-On Investment solely to the extent that a Required Majority reviews the proposed Follow-On Investment both on a stand-alone basis and together with the Pre-Boarding Investments in relation to the total economic exposure and other terms and makes the determinations set forth in Condition 2(c). In addition, the Follow-On Investment may only be completed in reliance on the Order if the Required Majority of each participating Regulated Fund determines that the making and holding of the Pre-Boarding Investments were not prohibited by section 57 (as modified by rule 57b-1) or rule 17d-1, as applicable. The basis for the Board's findings will be recorded in its minutes.

(c) *Additional Requirements.* The Follow-On Investment may only be completed in reliance on the Order if:

(i) *Original Investments.* All of the Affiliated Funds' and Regulated Funds' investments in the issuer are Pre-Boarding Investments;

(ii) *Advice of Counsel.* Independent counsel to the Board advises that the making and holding of the investments in the Pre-Boarding Investments were not prohibited by section 57 (as modified by rule 57b-1) or rule 17d-1, as applicable;

(iii) *Multiple Classes of Securities.* All Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds that hold Pre-Boarding Investments in the issuer immediately before the time of completion of the Co-Investment Transaction hold the same security or securities of the issuer. For the purpose of determining whether the Regulated Funds and Affiliated Funds hold the same security or securities, they may disregard any security held by some but not all of them if, prior to relying on the Order, the Required Majority is presented with all information necessary to make a finding, and finds, that: (x) any Regulated Fund's or Affiliated Fund's holding of a different class of securities (including for this purpose a security with a

different maturity date) is immaterial in amount, including immaterial relative to the size of the issuer; and (y) the Board records the basis for any such finding in its minutes. In addition, securities that differ only in respect of issuance date, currency or denominations may be treated as the same security; and

(iv) *No Control.* The Affiliated Funds, the other Regulated Funds and their “affiliated persons” (within the meaning of section 2(a)(3)(C) of the Act), individually or in the aggregate, do not “control” the issuer of the securities (within the meaning of section 2(a)(9) of the Act).

(d) *Allocation.* If, with respect to any such Follow-On Investment:

(i) the amount of the opportunity proposed to be made available to any Regulated Fund is not based on the Regulated Funds’ and the Affiliated Funds’ outstanding investments in the issuer or the security at issue, as appropriate, immediately preceding the Follow-On Investment; and

(ii) the aggregate amount recommended by the Advisers to be invested in the Follow-On Investment by the participating Regulated Funds and any participating Affiliated Funds, collectively, exceeds the amount of the investment opportunity, then the Follow-On Investment opportunity will be allocated among them pro rata based on the size of the Internal Orders, as described in section III.1.a.ii of the application.

(e) *Other Conditions.* The acquisition of Follow-On Investments as permitted by this Condition will be considered a Co-Investment Transaction for all purposes and subject to the other Conditions set forth in the application.

10. Board Reporting, Compliance and Annual Re-Approval

(a) Each Adviser to a Regulated Fund will present to the Board of each Regulated Fund, on a quarterly basis, and at such other times as the Board may request, (i) a record of all investments in Potential Co-Investment Transactions made by any of the other Regulated Funds or any of the Affiliated Funds during the preceding quarter that fell within the Regulated Fund's then-current Objectives and Strategies and Board-Established Criteria that were not made available to the Regulated Fund and an explanation of why such investment opportunities were not made available to the Regulated Fund; (ii) a record of all Follow-On Investments in and Dispositions of investments in any issuer in which the Regulated Fund holds any investments by any Affiliated Fund or other Regulated Fund during the prior quarter; and (iii) all information concerning Potential Co-Investment Transactions and Co-Investment Transactions, including investments made by other Regulated Funds or Affiliated Funds that the Regulated Fund considered but declined to participate in, so that the Independent Directors may determine whether all Potential Co-Investment Transactions and Co-Investment Transactions during the preceding quarter, including those investments that the Regulated Fund considered but declined to participate in, comply with the Conditions.

(b) All information presented to the Regulated Fund's Board pursuant to this Condition 10 will be kept for the life of the Regulated Fund and at least two years thereafter and will be subject to examination by the Commission and its staff.

(c) Each Regulated Fund's chief compliance officer, as defined in rule 38a-1(a)(4), will prepare an annual report for its Board each year that evaluates (and documents the basis of that evaluation) the Regulated Fund's compliance with the terms and Conditions of the application and the procedures established to achieve such compliance.



(d) The Independent Directors will consider at least annually whether continued participation in new and existing Co-Investment Transactions is in the Regulated Fund's best interests.

11. Record Keeping. Each Regulated Fund will maintain the records required by section 57(f)(3) of the Act as if each of the Regulated Funds were a BDC and each of the investments permitted under these Conditions were approved by the Required Majority under section 57(f).

12. Director Independence. No Independent Director of a Regulated Fund will also be a director, general partner, managing member or principal, or otherwise be an "affiliated person" (as defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Act) of any Affiliated Fund.

13. Expenses. The expenses, if any, associated with acquiring, holding or disposing of any securities acquired in a Co-Investment Transaction (including, without limitation, the expenses of the distribution of any such securities registered for sale under the Securities Act) will, to the extent not payable by the Advisers under their respective advisory agreements with the Regulated Funds and the Affiliated Funds, be shared by the Regulated Funds and the participating Affiliated Funds in proportion to the relative amounts of the securities held or being acquired or disposed of, as the case may be.

14. Transaction Fees.<sup>32</sup> Any transaction fee (including break-up, structuring, monitoring or commitment fees but excluding brokerage or underwriting compensation permitted by section 17(e) or 57(k)) received in connection with any Co-Investment Transaction will be distributed to the participants on a pro rata basis based on the amounts they invested or committed,

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<sup>32</sup> Applicants are not requesting, and the Commission is not providing, any relief for transaction fees received in connection with any Co-Investment Transaction.

as the case may be, in such Co-Investment Transaction. If any transaction fee is to be held by an Adviser pending consummation of the transaction, the fee will be deposited into an account maintained by the Adviser at a bank or banks having the qualifications prescribed in section 26(a)(1), and the account will earn a competitive rate of interest that will also be divided pro rata among the participants. None of the Advisers, the Affiliated Funds, the other Regulated Funds or any affiliated person of the Affiliated Funds or the Regulated Funds will receive any additional compensation or remuneration of any kind as a result of or in connection with a Co-Investment Transaction other than (i), in the case of the Regulated Funds and the Affiliated Funds, the pro rata transaction fees described above and fees or other compensation described in Condition 2(c)(iii)(B), (ii) brokerage or underwriting compensation permitted by section 17(e) or 57(k) or (iii), in the case of the Advisers, investment advisory compensation paid in accordance with investment advisory agreements between the applicable Regulated Fund(s) or Affiliated Fund(s) and its Adviser.

15. Independence. If the Holders own in the aggregate more than 25 percent of the Shares of a Regulated Fund, then the Holders will vote such Shares in the same percentages as the Regulated Fund's other shareholders (not including the Holders) when voting on (1) the election of directors; (2) the removal of one or more directors or (3) any other matter under either the Act or applicable state law affecting the Board's composition, size or manner of election.

16. Proprietary Accounts. The NB Proprietary Accounts will not be permitted to invest in a Potential Co-Investment Transaction except to the extent the aggregate demand from the Regulated Funds and the other Affiliated Funds is less than the total investment opportunity.

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

J. Matthew DeLesDernier  
Assistant Secretary