

2008 JAN -7 AM 3: 44

## THE OPTIONS CLEARING CORPORATION

OFC. OF THE SECRETARIAT

January 6, 2009

## VIA E-MAIL

Mr. David A. Stawick
Secretary of the Commission
Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21<sup>st</sup> Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20581

Re: Rule Filing SR-OCC-2009-01 Rule Certification

Dear Mr. Stawick:

Attached is a copy of the above-referenced rule filing, which The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") is submitting pursuant to the self-certification procedures of Commission Regulation 40.6. This rule filing has been, or is concurrently being, submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act").

In conformity with the requirements of Regulation 40.6(a)(3), OCC states the following: The text of the rule is set forth at Item 1 of the enclosed filing. The date of implementation of the rule is when the proposed rule has been approved by the SEC. No substantive opposing views were expressed to OCC by governing board or committee members, clearing members of OCC, or market participants, that were not incorporated into the rule.

OCC hereby certifies that the rule set forth at Item 1 of the enclosed filing complies with the Commodity Exchange Act and the Commission's regulations thereunder.



Mr. David A. Stawick Page Two January 6, 2009

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (312) 322-6269.

Sincerely,

Jean M. Cawley

## Attachments

cc: CFTC Central Region (w/ enclosure)

525 West Monroe Street, Suite 1100

Chicago, IL 60661 Attn: Frank Zimmerle

OCC-2009-01 cftc.ltr

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## Form 19b-4

Proposed Rule Change by

## THE OPTIONS CLEARING CORPORATION

Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

## Item 1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

The text of the proposed rule change, which consists of amended interpretative guidance relating to the new adjustment methodology for cash dividends and distributions, is set forth in Exhibit 5 hereto. Material proposed to be added to the interpretative guidance is marked by double underlining. Material proposed to be deleted is enclosed in brackets.

## Item 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the Board of Directors of OCC at a meeting held on May 20, 2008.

Questions regarding the proposed rule change should be addressed to Jean M. Cawley, Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, at (312) 322-6269.

## Item 3. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

#### Background

In SR-OCC-2008-10 (Release No. 34-58059, June 30, 2008), The Options

Clearing Corporation ("OCC") adopted interpretative guidance developed by the OCC's

Securities Committee regarding the administration and application of the new adjustment method for cash dividends and distributions ("New Methodology"). In SR-OCC-2008-16, OCC proposed a minor modification to the New Methodology which was approved by the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The New Methodology was approved by the Commission in Release No. 34-55258 (February 8, 2007).

Commission in Release No. 34-58586 (September 18, 2008). The purpose of this rule change is to amend the interpretative guidance to address the approved modification to the New Methodology.

## Amendment to Interpretative Guidance

Under the New Methodology, cash dividends paid by a company other than pursuant to a policy or practice of paying dividends on a quarterly or other regular basis would be deemed "special" and would ordinarily trigger a contract adjustment provided the value of the adjustment is at least \$12.50 per option contract.<sup>2</sup> However, certain inconsistencies may result when the threshold of \$12.50 per option contract is applied to all options on the affected underlying security. For example, if a \$.10 special cash dividend is declared, the standard-size 100 share option would not be adjusted (because the value is less than \$12.50). However, a previously adjusted 150 share option (reflecting a 3 for 2 split) would be adjusted (because the value is \$15 per contract). Adjusting some but not all options of the same class in response to the same dividend event, especially if the 100 share option is not adjusted, could be confusing to investors, and OCC's Securities Committee (consisting of representatives of each of the options exchanges, as well as OCC) determined that this potential confusion should be avoided.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The New Methodology will take effect beginning with dividends announce on and after February 1, 2009, other than for certain grandfathered options.

OCC's Securities Committee believed that greater consistency across contracts of varying sizes could be achieved by retaining the \$12.50 per contract threshold in all cases, but subject to a qualification providing that if a corresponding standard-size contract exists on the underlying security, previously adjusted contracts will be adjusted only if the corresponding standard-size contract is also adjusted. This qualification was the subject of SR-OCC-2008-16. Implementation of the qualification will take effect at the same time the New Methodology is effective.

OCC's previously adopted interpretative guidance regarding the New Methodology has been amended to address the application of the qualified \$12.50 per contract threshold, including examples of how the threshold will work in practice. The amended interpretative guidance is attached hereto as Exhibit 5, and will be posted on OCC's public website, made available in an information memorandum accessible to clearing members or otherwise available in hard copy form on request.

\* \* \*

The proposed change is consistent with Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), because it provides market participants with interpretative guidance on the application of the New Methodology, as qualified, which will be applied to adjustments for cash dividends and distributions. The proposed rule change is not inconsistent with the existing rules of OCC, including any other rules proposed to be amended.

Item 4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on

competition.

## Item 5. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were not and are not intended to be solicited with respect to the proposed rule change and none have been received.

## Item 6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

OCC does not consent to an extension of the time period for Commission action on the proposed rule change.

## Item 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for</u> Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A), the proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness inasmuch as it constitutes a stated policy, practice or interpretation with respect to an existing rule.

## Item 8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rule of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Not applicable.

#### Item 9. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.

## **SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, The Options Clearing Corporation has caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

THE OPTIONS CLEARING CORPORATION

William H. Navin

**Executive Vice President and** 

General Counsel

#### **EXHIBIT 1**

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

(Release No. 34-\_\_\_\_\_; File No. SR-OCC-2009-01

#### **SELF-REGULATORY ORGANIZATION**

Proposed Rule Change By	
The Options Clearing Corporation	

Relating to Amended Interpretative Guidance on the New Methodology for Adjusting Option Contracts for Cash Dividends and Distributions

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1), notice is hereby given that on January 6, 2009, The Options Clearing Corporation ("OCC") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II and III below, which Items have been prepared by the self-regulatory organization. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

## I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the</u> <u>Terms of the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The proposed rule change would amend previously adopted interpretative guidance relating to the New Methodology for adjusting options for cash distributions and dividends.

## II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose</u> of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the self-regulatory organization included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The self-regulatory organization has prepared summaries, set forth in sections (A), (B), and (C) below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

## A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose</u> of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

## Background

In SR-OCC-2008-10 (Release No. 34-58059, June 30, 2008), The Options

Clearing Corporation ("OCC") adopted interpretative guidance developed by the OCC's

Securities Committee regarding the administration and application of the new adjustment method for cash dividends and distributions ("New Methodology"). In SR-OCC-2008-16, OCC proposed a minor modification to the New Methodology which was approved by the

Commission in Release No. 34-58586 (September 18, 2008). The purpose of this rule change is to amend the interpretative guidance to address the approved modification to the New Methodology.

## Amendment to Interpretative Guidance

Under the New Methodology, cash dividends paid by a company other than pursuant to a policy or practice of paying dividends on a quarterly or other regular basis would be deemed "special" and would ordinarily trigger a contract adjustment provided the value of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The New Methodology was approved by the Commission in Release No. 34-55258 (February 8, 2007).

adjustment is at least \$12.50 per option contract.<sup>2</sup> However, certain inconsistencies may result when the threshold of \$12.50 per option contract is applied to all options on the affected underlying security. For example, if a \$.10 special cash dividend is declared, the standard-size 100 share option would not be adjusted (because the value is less than \$12.50). However, a previously adjusted 150 share option (reflecting a 3 for 2 split) would be adjusted (because the value is \$15 per contract). Adjusting some but not all options of the same class in response to the same dividend event, especially if the 100 share option is not adjusted, could be confusing to investors, and OCC's Securities Committee (consisting of representatives of each of the options exchanges, as well as OCC) determined that this potential confusion should be avoided.

OCC's Securities Committee believed that greater consistency across contracts of varying sizes could be achieved by retaining the \$12.50 per contract threshold in all cases, but subject to a qualification providing that if a corresponding standard-size contract exists on the underlying security, previously adjusted contracts will be adjusted only if the corresponding standard-size contract is also adjusted. This qualification was the subject of SR-OCC-2008-16. Implementation of the qualification will take effect at the same time the New Methodology is effective.

OCC's previously adopted interpretative guidance regarding the New Methodology has been amended to address the application of the qualified \$12.50 per contract threshold, including examples of how the threshold will work in practice. The amended interpretative guidance is attached hereto as Exhibit 5, and will be posted on OCC's public website, made available in an information memorandum accessible to clearing members or otherwise available in hard copy form on request.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The New Methodology will take effect beginning with dividends announce on and after February 1, 2009, other than for certain grandfathered options.

The proposed change is consistent with Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), because it provides market participants with interpretative guidance on the application of the New Methodology, as qualified, which will be applied to adjustments for cash dividends and distributions. The proposed rule change is not inconsistent with the existing rules of OCC, including any other rules proposed to be amended.

# B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition OCC does not believe that the proposed rule change would impose any burden on competition.

## C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

Written comments were not and are not intended to be solicited with respect to the proposed rule change and none have been received.

## III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change</u> and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

## IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the

foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic Comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number 2009-01 on the subject line.

## Paper Comments:

• Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-OCC-2009-01. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Section, 100F Fifth Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-1090. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the above-mentioned self-regulatory organization. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-OCC-

2009-01 in the caption above and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from
publication in the Federal Register.]
For the Commission by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated
authority.
Secretary
Dated:

.

## INTERPRETATIVE GUIDANCE ON THE NEW ADJUSTMENT POLICY FOR CASH DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

<u>Disclaimer:</u> The OCC Securities Committee has reviewed the questions and answers presented below and believes they provide useful guidelines for how the new adjustment policy will be applied in practice. However, as indicated several times below, all adjustments are individually determined by an adjustment panel of the Securities Committee on a case by case basis, and adjustment panels may make exceptions to general rules, interpretations, and policies in cases where they determine such exceptions to be appropriate. In no instance are the examples provided below meant to determine in advance the decisions that any adjustment panel will make in the future.

## Overview of the New Adjustment Policy

- Q. Who decides if an option adjustment shall be made?
- A. All adjustments are determined on a case by case basis by an adjustment panel of the OCC Securities Committee. Each adjustment panel is comprised of two representatives from each exchange that trades the option in question, plus an OCC representative. The OCC member only casts a vote to break a tie. The adjustment panel decides whether an adjustment is called for and how it should be done.
- Q. What cash dividends call for an adjustment?
- A. "Ordinary" cash dividends do not call for adjustments. An "ordinary" cash dividend is defined as one paid "pursuant to a policy or practice of paying such dividend on a quarterly or other regular basis". A cash dividend which is considered to be *outside* this regular policy is non-ordinary, or "special". Assuming a given dividend is "special" according to this definition, a size test is also imposed: the value of the dividend must be at least \$12.50 per option contract. Thus, if the dividend is "special" and yields at least \$12.50 per option contract, then an adjustment will be made.
- Q. What's the rationale for this approach?
- A. In general, dividends declared pursuant to a policy or practice of a company can be anticipated and priced into option premiums according to standard models. (For example, Pfizer has announced it will pay \$.24 quarterly dividends as part of an established dividend program.) "Special" dividends declared outside the normal policy of the company cannot be anticipated and integrated into pricing with the same degree of assurance. Thus, when special dividends are announced, if no adjustment is made, the only way a call holder can capture the dividend is through exercise prior to the ex-dividend date. When this happens, significant option time value can be lost and financial losses due to operational error in submitting exercises may occur. The intention is to allow "special" dividends to accrue to the benefit of call holders without requiring them to exercise their options.
- Q. So any dividend that can't be *anticipated* will be deemed a special dividend?

No. Although special dividends may be unanticipated, the important criterion is whether a A. dividend is paid pursuant to a program or policy of paying dividends on a quarterly or other regular basis. In some cases, the dividends of a company paid according to such a policy may be highly variable and subject to increases or decreases that some may consider "unanticipated". Nevertheless, these dividends would not normally be deemed "special".

## Examples: What if...?

Can you give an example of how the \$12.50 adjustment threshold will work in practice? In order for an option to be adjusted, the value of the special dividend must be at least \$12.50 per option contract. However, if the security on which the dividend is paid underlies option contracts with more than one contract size-e.g., as a result of adjustments for previous splits- then the nonstandard contracts would be adjusted only if the value of the dividend on the nonstandard contract is at least \$12.50 and the standard-size contract (normally 100 shares) would also be adjusted. For example, suppose an option covers 100 shares of stock and a \$0.10 special cash dividend is

declared. This dividend, although "special", would yield only \$10.00 in value for this option contract. Therefore, no adjustment would be made.

A second example: Suppose an option covers 100 shares of stock and another option covers 150 shares of the same stock (as the result of a previous adjustment for a 3-for-2 split). A \$0.10 special dividend is declared. The dividend would yield \$10.00 in value for the 100 share option and \$15.00 for the other. However, in this case, since the standard-size (100 share) contract would not be adjusted (the \$12.50 threshold not being met), the 150 share option would also not be adjusted.

A third: Suppose an option covers 100 shares of stock and another option covers 50 shares of the same stock (as a result of a previous adjustment for a 1-for-2 reverse split). A \$0.15 special dividend is declared. The dividend would yield \$15.00 in value for the 100 share option and \$7.50 for the 50 share option. In this case, the standard-size (100 share) option would be adjusted, but the 50 share option would not be adjusted because the value of the dividend per contract would be only \$7.50, and a nonstandard option is not adjusted if the value of the dividend per contract is less than \$12.50 even if the standard-size option is adjusted.

These examples also illustrate that the \$12.50 threshold is applied at the ontion contract level not per share.

Occasionally only nonstandard-size options exist. In these cases, since there is no standard-size option to refer back to, the application of the \$12.50 per contract threshold will determine whether an adjustment is made.

Who determines if a cash dividend is "special"? Q.

The adjustment panels of the OCC Securities Committee will make this determination. In most A. cases, we anticipate being able to rely on the description of the company itself in describing its dividend. In our experience, dividends that are called "special" or "extraordinary" (or similar terms) by the company in fact describe the non-ordinary dividend events that we want to capture

## by adjustment. However, the company's characterization of a dividend is not binding on adjustment panels.

- Q. What if a company that previously paid no dividends initiates a regular dividend program would the initial dividend be considered "special" and therefore adjustable?
- A. No. The initial dividend would be paid pursuant to a policy under which the company intends to pay dividends on a regular basis. Therefore, it would not be deemed "special" and adjustable.
- Q. What if a company announced a dramatic increase in a regular dividend? For example, what if a company's last quarterly dividend was \$.20 and the current quarterly dividend was bumped to \$1.00 wouldn't that be a "special", one-time event that would call for an adjustment?
- A. No most likely not. As mentioned earlier, we would start with the company's description of its dividend. If the company has a quarterly dividend program and the company says this quarter's dividend is \$1.00, then we anticipate the adjustment panel would deem the dividend to be ordinary and not adjustable. However, as mentioned, the decisions of the adjustment panels are always made on a case by case basis, in light of the circumstances and facts as understood at the time.
- Q. What about REITS[s], natural resource trusts, and similar companies that pay very irregular dividends? Such companies could pay no dividends for many months and then suddenly pay a dividend. Would that be considered a "special", adjustable dividend?
- A. No most likely not. The kinds of companies mentioned in the question often have very regular dividend policies but will actually pay dividends only when certain conditions are met, or in response to market conditions. REITS, for example, are generally required to pay out profits to shareholders when and if profits are realized. They may determine dividends monthly, although the cash amount available for distribution may actually be zero in any given month. Thus, although the dividend payouts of such companies may be irregular, insofar as they occur pursuant to the policy of the company, they would be considered ordinary and not adjustable. The adjustment panels would look to the company's characterization of the dividend and its dividend policy.
- Q. What if a company is reorganizing itself into a REIT and is required to pay out accumulated profits in a large dividend as it commences a dividend program. You said before that *initial* dividends would not normally call for adjustment. Would you adjust in this case?
- A. In our experience, companies reorganizing themselves into REITS or income trusts often designate this initial required pay-out as a "special" dividend. Precedent exists for adjusting for such dividends under OCC's existing adjustment rules, and it is likely that they will be adjusted for under the new rules. Even if the company did not specifically characterize such a dividend as "special", the adjustment panels could decide to deem them special and adjust.
- Q. Fund share or ETF options have previously been adjusted in response to special dividends declared with respect to component securities of the fund. The most notable instance was the Microsoft \$3.00 special dividend in 2004. How will these kinds of distributions be handled?
- A. If a fund (ETF, HOLDR, etc.) is making a cash distribution which is identified (in whole or part) by the fund as attributable to a special dividend on a component security, then the appropriate amount of the cash distribution will also be considered a special, adjustable distribution. For example, if an ETF is making a \$1.00 quarterly cash distribution, \$.25 of which is attributable to a special dividend on a component security, the adjustment panel will normally consider \$0.25 of

the aggregate distribution as a special dividend and adjust for \$25.00 per option contract (assuming a 100 share option).

Note: The \$12.50 size test will also be applied: the portion of the distribution attributable to the component security's special dividend must yield \$12.50 value per option contract before an adjustment is done.

- Q. What if a company declares a special dividend which is ex-distribution on the same date that a regular dividend is "ex"? Would these be considered one event or two separate events?
- A. Two separate events.
- Q. The Phelps Dodge (PD) special dividends present an interesting case. PD announced they intended to pay a certain aggregate cash amount in a series of special dividends and/or effect stock buy-backs over the upcoming year. Would these dividends be considered "special"; or would they be considered "ordinary" because they were paid pursuant to an announced program?
- A. In the case of PD, each dividend was characterized by the company as "special" and although paid pursuant to a "program", PD gave no indications it would be permanent. The "program" allowed special cash dividends to be paid in lieu of stock buy-backs. PD also continued to pay quarterly dividends which were separate from the special dividends. Thus, it is likely the adjustment panels would consider each dividend paid by PD pursuant to this program to be "special" and call for an adjustment. As mentioned earlier, the adjustment panels address each dividend on a case by case basis.
- Q. What if a company's regular quarterly dividend is a "return of capital"? Would that make it a special, adjustable dividend?
- A. No. Insofar as the dividend is still a regular quarterly dividend, it would not call for an adjustment. Ordinarily, the source of cash to be paid will not be determinative of the adjustment decision. In the past, however, adjustment panels have determined to adjust for any dividends paid pursuant to a plan of liquidation even regular dividends of the company included in the plan. They may follow this precedent in the future as well for companies undergoing liquidation.

## **Operational Matters**

- Q. Will we have to wait until the official declaration date of a dividend before a decision is made about option adjustment?
- A. Not necessarily. The adjustment panels will be motivated to make their adjustment decisions as soon as practicable. The panels may decide it is appropriate to base a decision on the company's press release or similar announcement, in advance of the formal declaration date. Of course, if this is done, the adjustment decision would be appropriately conditional. For example, "if declared and paid as described in the press release, then...."

For example, suppose a company announces its intention in a press release to pay a special dividend, but this dividend is contingent on shareholder approval or other conditions. Until the conditions are met, it will not be officially declared. Under the new policy, it will be easy to see if the dividend meets the size criterion: would it yield \$12.50 per contract? If "yes", then if the adjustment panel determines it is a "special" dividend, investors will immediately know an adjustment will occur if the dividend is actually declared.

- Q. Won't this new adjustment policy result in option symbol proliferation?
- A. Yes, to some extent. Contract adjustments under the new policy will be more frequent and in many cases a new symbol will be required. However, OCC and the exchanges feel the benefits of the new policy outweigh the operational costs.

One should note that when equity option strike prices can be denominated in decimals and the need for "ticker codes" for each strike is eliminated, adjustments will be possible without the need to change option symbols (as the strike prices can be reduced by the exact amount of the dividend). When that happens, symbol proliferation will not occur. The option industry is looking forward to this capability in 2010.

- Q. If an adjustment is called for, how will it be done?
- A. There will be no changes to the *methods* of adjustment. There are two methods of adjustment: 1) simply reduce the strike prices by the amount of the dividend. This is the preferred method and will normally be used if the strike prices can be reduced *without rounding*. 2) If strike prices can't be reduced without rounding, then the amount of the dividend will be added as a cash component to the option deliverable. When this is done, an option symbol change normally occurs.

Adjustments will continue to be made on the ex-date for the cash dividend as determined by the appropriate market.

ALL CLEARING MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO IMMEDIATELY ADVISE ALL BRANCH OFFICES AND CORRESPONDENTS ON THE ABOVE.

Questions regarding this memo can be addressed to Member Services at (800) 544-6091. Within Canada call (800) 424-7320.