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Please direct any questions about this matter to one of the technical contacts listed below:

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End of Draft Regulatory Issue Summary

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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 13th day of July 2009.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
Martin C. Murphy,
*Chief, Generic Communications Branch,
Division of Policy and Rulemaking, Office
of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*
[FR Doc. E9–17164 Filed 7–17–09; 8:45 am]
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POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. N2009–1; Order No. 244]

Postal Retail Network Consolidation

AGENCY: Postal Regulatory Commission.
ACTION: Notice related to postal retail network consolidation initiative.

SUMMARY: This document addresses a recent Postal Service filing seeking Commission action on matters related to a retail network consolidation plan affecting certain postal stations and branches and postal patrons, primarily through consolidation of facilities. It includes information on several related procedural steps, including intervention and a prehearing conference.

DATES: Deadline for notices of intervention, requests for hearings, and required statements: July 28, 2009; prehearing conference (9:30 a.m.): July 30, 2009.

ADDRESSES: Submit filings electronically via the Commission's Filing Online system at <http://www.prc.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen L. Sharman, general counsel, 202–789–6820.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On July 2, 2009, the United States Postal Service (Postal Service) filed a request with the Postal Regulatory Commission (Commission) asking for a determination whether a plan to optimize the postal retail network by consolidating the operations of some retail stations and branches into nearby facilities constitutes a change in the nature of postal services, substantially on a nationwide basis, within the meaning of 39 U.S.C. 3661(c).¹ The Postal Service describes the plan as the Postal Service Station and Branch Optimization and Consolidation Initiative (Initiative). Request at 1.

If the Commission determines that the Initiative will likely generate changes in the nature of postal services on a substantially nationwide basis, the Postal Service then requests that the Commission issue an advisory opinion under section 3661(c) which concurs

¹ Request of the United States Postal Service for an Advisory Opinion on Changes in Postal Services, July 2, 2009; and Notice of the United States Postal Service of Filing Erratum to Request [Erratum], July 2, 2009 (Request).

that such service changes would conform to the policies reflected in title 39 of the United States Code. *Id.* at 2.

The Postal Service states that the Initiative already began in May with the examination of the portion of the retail network consisting of stations and branches that report to Postmasters at or above the USPS Executive & Administrative Schedule level 24 pay grade. USPS–T–2 at 8. It asserts that the stations and branches that meet this criterion are located primarily in urban and suburban population centers and comprise approximately two-thirds of the over 4,800 stations and branches nationwide. Request at 5–6. The stated objective of the Initiative is to “realign the postal retail network with current and future postal customer service needs, to reduce inefficiency and redundancy, and to capture the resulting cost savings.” *Id.* at 6. The results will be used to inform any decisions on whether to expand the Initiative to a broader pool of stations and branches. *Id.* The Postal Service states that if the Initiative results in a decision to change the nature of any postal service provided at any postal facility, such changes will not be implemented before October 2, 2009. *Id.* at 7.

The Postal Service's Request is accompanied and supported by two pieces of testimony and four library references. The Postal Service states that the reasons underlying the pursuit of the objectives contained within the Initiative are described in the Direct Testimony of Alice M. VanGorder on Behalf of United States Postal Service (USPS–T–1), July 2, 2009. It states that the process to be employed in making decisions to achieve the objectives are described in the Direct Testimony of Kimberly I. Matalik on Behalf of United States Postal Service (USPS–T–2), July 2, 2009. The library references provide public and non-public versions of the official records for the closings of the Buhl, PA classified station² and the Washburn, IA classified branch.³

The Request and all supporting public materials are on file in the

² USPS–LR–N2009–1/1 Official Record to Close the Buhl, PA Classified Station, Docket No. 16146 (Public Version); and USPS–LR–N2009–1/NP1 Official Record to Close the Buhl, PA Classified Station, Docket No. 16146 (Non-Public Version). The public version excludes the names of customers and postal patrons providing comments to the Postal Service.

³ USPS–LR–N2009–1/2 Official Record to Close the Washburn, IA Classified Branch, Docket No. 50706 (Public Version); and USPS–LR–N2009–1/NP2 Official Record to Close the Washburn, IA Classified Branch, Docket No. 50706 (Non-Public Version). The public version excludes the names of customers and postal patrons providing comments to the Postal Service.

Commission's docket room for inspection during regular business hours, and are available on the Commission's Web site at <http://www.prc.gov>.

Further procedures. Section 3661(c) of title 39 requires that the Commission afford an opportunity for formal, on-the-record hearing of the Postal Service's Request under the terms specified in sections 556 and 557 of title 5 of the United States Code before issuing its advisory opinion. All interested parties are hereby notified that notices of intervention in this proceeding shall be due on July 28, 2009. Any participant requesting a hearing in this matter shall so state in conformance with 39 CFR 3001.20(b).

At this time, the Commission cannot anticipate the duration, or even the exact form, proceedings on this matter will take. Participants who wish to offer their views on these issues may do so in their interventions. Due to the nature of this Initiative, the Commission may consider holding public hearings outside of Washington, DC.

The Postal Service indicates that its Initiative was fostered, in part, by the current financial crisis and the continuing decline in mail volume. In light of this, it requests that the Commission expeditiously issue its opinion. However, a proposal for changes which could impact the nature of postal service on a nationwide basis must be examined carefully. The Commission urges participants to carefully consider, prior to the prehearing conference, the justification for any proposed discovery period.

The Commission will hold a prehearing conference in this docket on July 30, 2009 at which these questions will be discussed.

Public participation. Section 3661(c) of title 39 requires the participation of an "officer of the Commission who shall be required to represent the interests of the general public" in these proceedings. Robert Sidman is designated to serve as Public Representative to represent the interests of the general public.

It is ordered:

1. The Commission establishes Docket No. N2009-1 to consider the Postal Service Request referred to in the body of this order.

2. The Commission will act *en banc* in this proceeding.

3. Notices of intervention shall be filed no later than July 28, 2009.

4. Participants who wish to request a hearing on the Postal Service's Request in this docket shall submit such a request, together with statements in

conformance with 39 CFR 3001.20(b), on or before July 28, 2009.

5. A prehearing conference is scheduled for July 30, 2009, at 9:30 a.m., in the Commission's hearing room.

6. Pursuant to 39 U.S.C. 3661(c), the Commission appoints Robert Sidman to represent the interests of the general public in this proceeding.

7. The Secretary shall arrange for publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**.

Issued: July 10, 2009.

By the Commission.

Judith M. Grady,

Acting Secretary.

[FR Doc. E9-17155 Filed 7-17-09; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7710-FW-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 28818; File No. 812-13200]

Reaves Utility Income Fund, et al.; Notice of Application

July 14, 2009.

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

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

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order to permit a registered closed-end investment company to make periodic distributions of long-term capital gains with respect to its common shares as often as monthly in any one taxable year, and as frequently as distributions are specified by or in accordance with the terms of its preferred shares.

APPLICANTS: Reaves Utility Income Fund ("UTG") and W.H. Reaves & Co., Inc. ("Investment Adviser").

DATES: *Filing Dates:* June 14, 2005, and amended on February 14, 2007, October 15, 2008, April 20, 2009, and July 10, 2009.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on August 10, 2009, and should be accompanied by proof of service on applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of

service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090; Applicants: Reaves Utility Income Fund, 1290 Broadway, Suite 1100, Denver, CO 80203, and W.H. Reaves & Co., Inc., 10 Exchange Place, 18th Floor, Jersey City, NJ 07302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Courtney S. Thornton, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-6812, or Mary Kay Frech, Branch Chief, at (202) 551-6821 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

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

Applicants' Representations

1. UTG is a registered closed-end management investment company organized as a Delaware statutory trust.¹ UTG's primary investment objective is to provide a high level of after-tax income and total return consisting primarily of tax-advantaged dividend income and capital appreciation. The common shares issued by UTG are listed on the NYSE Amex. UTG currently has three series of preferred shares outstanding, which are not listed or traded on any stock exchange. Applicants believe that the shareholders of UTG are generally conservative, dividend-sensitive investors who desire current income periodically and may favor a fixed distribution policy.

2. The Investment Adviser is a Delaware corporation registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act"). The Investment Adviser serves as investment adviser to

¹ UTG is the only closed-end investment company that currently intends to rely on the order. Applicants request that the order also apply to any registered closed-end investment company that in the future: (a) Is advised by the Investment Adviser (including any successor in interest) or by any entity controlling, controlled by, or under common control (within the meaning of section 2(a)(9) of the Act) with the Investment Adviser; and (b) complies with the terms and conditions of the requested order (collectively with UTG, "Funds"). A successor in interest is limited to entities that result from a reorganization into another jurisdiction or a change in the type of business organization.