

Agency name	Organization name	Position title	Authorization No.	Effective date
Department of State .....	Bureau of Legislative Affairs .....	Legislative Management Officer .....	DS120103	8/3/2012
	Foreign Policy Planning Staff .....	Special Assistant .....	DS120111	8/23/2012
Department of Transportation .....	Administrator .....	Director, Office of Congressional and Public Affairs.	DT120079	8/6/2012
United States International Trade Commission.	Office of the Chairman .....	Staff Assistant (Legal) .....	TC120007	8/14/2012

The following Schedule C appointing authorities were revoked during August 2012.

Agency	Organization	Position title	Authorization No.	Vacate date
Department of Commerce .....	Economic Development Administration.	Special Advisor .....	DC110090	8/10/2012
	Office of the Deputy Secretary .....	Special Assistant .....	DC120003	8/25/2012
Department of Education .....	Office Of Vocational And Adult Education.	Confidential Assistant .....	DB110004	8/11/2012
	Office of Communications and Outreach.	Confidential Assistant .....	DB110044	8/17/2012
	Office of Planning, Evaluation and Policy Development.	Confidential Assistant .....	DB110050	8/25/2012
	Office of Vocational and Adult Education.	Deputy Assistant Secretary For Policy and Strategic Initiatives.	DB110091	8/25/2012
Department of Energy .....	Office of Postsecondary Education	Confidential Assistant .....	DB120026	8/25/2012
Department of Homeland Security ..	Office of Management .....	Deputy Scheduler .....	DE110134	8/3/2012
	Office of the Chief of Staff .....	Confidential Assistant to the Chief of Staff.	DM110138	8/11/2012
	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.	Press Secretary .....	DM110237	8/11/2012
Department of Justice .....	Office of Legal Policy .....	Research Assistant .....	DJ100174	8/3/2012
	Antitrust Division .....	Senior Counsel .....	DJ120028	8/11/2012
Department of the Navy .....	Department of the Navy .....	Special Assistant .....	DN090075	8/25/2012
Office of the Secretary of Defense	Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Asian and Pacific Security Affairs).	Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (East Asia).	DD090251	8/10/2012
	Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (International Security Affairs).	Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Russia, Ukraine and Eurasia).	DD090247	8/21/2012
	Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Asian and Pacific Security Affairs).	Special Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Central Asia).	DD090233	8/25/2012
Small Business Administration .....	Office of Field Operations .....	Regional Administrator, Region VIII, Denver Colorado.	SB090060	8/10/2012
	Office of the Administrator .....	Policy Advisor to the Administrator	SB120003	8/11/2012
	Office of Capital Access .....	Senior Advisor to the Associate Administrator for Capital Access.	SB100044	8/15/2012

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR 1954–1958 Comp., p. 218.

U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

**John Berry,**  
Director.

[FR Doc. 2012–25418 Filed 10–15–12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6325–39–P**

**RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD**

**Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

*Summary:* In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506 (c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public

comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

*Comments are invited on:* (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB’s estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of

automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

*1. Title and purpose of information collection:* Vocational Report; OMB 3220–0141.

Section 2 of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA) provides for payment of disability annuities to qualified employees and widow(ers). The establishment of permanent disability for work in the applicants “regular occupation” or for work in any regular employment is prescribed in 20 CFR 220.12 and 220.13 respectively.

The RRB utilizes Form G–251, *Vocational Report*, to obtain an applicant’s work history. This information is used by the RRB to

determine the effect of a disability on an applicant's ability to work. Form G-251 is designed for use with the RRB's disability benefit application forms and is provided to all applicants for

employee disability annuities and to those applicants for a widow(er)'s disability annuity who indicate that they have been employed at some time.

Completion is required to obtain or retain a benefit. One response is requested of each respondent. The RRB proposes no changes to Form G-251.

ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

[The estimated annual respondent burden is as follows]

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (Minutes)	Burden (Hours)
G-251 (with assistance) .....	5,730	30	2,865
G-251 (without assistance) .....	270	40	180
Total .....	6,000	.....	3,045

2. Title and purpose of information collection: Job Information Report, OMB 3220-0193.

In July of 1997, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) adopted standards for the adjudication of occupational disabilities under the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA). As part of these standards, the RRB requests job information to determine an applicant's eligibility for an occupational disability. The job information received from the railroad employer and railroad employee is compared, reconciled (if needed), and then used in the occupational disability determination process. The process of obtaining information from railroad employers used to determine an applicant's eligibility for an occupational disability is outlined in 20 CFR 220.13(b)(2)(e).

To determine an occupational disability, the RRB must decide if the employee is precluded from performing the full range of duties of his or her regular railroad occupation. This is accomplished by comparing the restrictions an impairment(s) causes against an employee's ability to perform his/her normal duties. To collect information needed to determine the effect of a disability on an employee applicant's ability to work, the RRB needs the employee applicant's work history. To obtain this information from the employee applicant, the RRB utilizes Form G-251, *Vocational Report*

(OMB 3220-0141. **Note:** Form G-251 is provided to *all* applicants for employee disability annuities and to those applicants for a widow or widower's disability annuity who indicate that they have been employed at some time.

In accordance with the standards, the RRB also requests pertinent job information from employers. The employer is given thirty days from the date of the notice to respond. The responses are not required, but are voluntary. If the job information is received timely, it is compared to the job information provided by the employee. Any material differences are resolved by an RRB disability examiner. Once resolved, the information is compared to the restrictions caused by the medical impairment. If the restrictions prohibit the performance of the regular railroad occupation, the claimant is found occupationally disabled.

To obtain the job information from the railroad employer, the RRB uses the following two forms. RRB Form G-251a, *Employer Job Information—Job Description*, is released to an employer when an application for an occupational disability is filed by an employee whose regular railroad occupation is one of the more common types of railroad jobs (locomotive engineer, conductor, switchman, etc.) It is accompanied by a "generic job description" for that particular railroad job. The generic job

description describes how the select occupation is generally performed in the railroad industry. However, because not all occupations are performed the same way from railroad to railroad, the employer is given an opportunity to comment on whether the job description matches the employee's actual duties. If the employer concludes that the generic job description accurately describes the work performed by the applicant, no further action is necessary. If the employer determines that the tasks are different, it may provide the RRB with a description of the actual job tasks. The employer has thirty days from the date the form is released to respond.

Form G-251b, *Employer Job Information—General*, is released to an employer when an application for an RRB occupational disability is filed by an employee whose regular railroad occupation does not have a generic job description. It notifies the employer that the employee has filed for a disability annuity and that, if the employer wishes, it may provide the RRB with job duty information. The type of information the RRB is seeking is outlined on the form. The employer has thirty days from the date the form is released to reply.

Completion is voluntary. The RRB proposes no changes to Forms G-251a and G-251b.

ESTIMATE OF ANNUAL RESPONDENT BURDEN

[The estimated annual respondent burden is as follows]

Form No.	Annual responses	Time (Minutes)	Burden (Hours)
G-251a .....	125	20	42
G-251b .....	305	20	102
Total .....	430	.....	144

*Additional Information or Comments:* To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, contact Dana Hickman at (312) 751-4981 or [Dana.Hickman@RRB.GOV](mailto:Dana.Hickman@RRB.GOV). Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Charles Mierzwa, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 North Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092 or emailed to [Charles.Mierzwa@RRB.GOV](mailto:Charles.Mierzwa@RRB.GOV). Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

**Charles Mierzwa,**

*Chief of Information Resources Management.*

[FR Doc. 2012-25403 Filed 10-15-12; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 7905-01-P**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. IC-30228; 812-14011]

### Permal Hedge Strategies Fund, *et al.*; Notice of Application

October 9, 2012.

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

**ACTION:** Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") for an exemption from sections 18(c) and 18(i) of the Act.

*Summary of Application:* Applicants request an order to permit certain registered closed-end management investment companies to issue multiple classes of shares with varying sales loads and asset-based distribution and service fees.

*Applicants:* Permal Hedge Strategies Fund ("Fund"), Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC (the "Adviser"), Permal Asset Management Inc., ("Sub-Adviser" and, together with the Adviser, the "Advisers") and Legg Mason Investors Services, LLC (the "Distributor").

*Filing Dates:* The application was filed on March 2, 2012, and amended on July 3, 2012. Applicants have agreed to file an amendment during the notice period, the substance of which is reflected in this notice.

*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 writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission

by 5:30 p.m. on November 2, 2012, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the 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:** Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090; Applicants, c/o Robert I. Frenkel, Esq., Legg Mason & Co., LLC, 100 First Stamford Place, 6th Floor, Stamford, CT 06902.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Emerson S. Davis, Senior Counsel, at (202) 551-6811 or Daniele Marchesani, 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 an applicant using the Company name box, at <http://www.sec.gov/search/search.htm> or by calling (202) 551-8090.

*Applicants' Representations:*

1. The Fund is a non-diversified closed-end management investment company registered under the Act. The Fund is organized as a Maryland statutory trust. The Adviser serves as investment adviser and the Sub-Adviser as a subadviser to the Fund. The Distributor, a broker-dealer registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("1934 Act"), acts as principal underwriter for the Funds. The Distributor is an affiliated person, as defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Act, of the Adviser and of the Sub-Adviser.

2. The Fund continuously offers its shares ("Shares") under the Securities Act of 1933. The Shares are not offered or traded in a secondary market and are not listed on any securities exchange or traded on any over-the counter system. Applicants do not expect that any secondary market will ever develop for the Shares.

3. The Fund currently offers an initial class of Shares ("Initial Class") at net asset value subject to a sales load and an ongoing asset-based service and distribution fee and proposes to offer multiple classes of Shares. The Fund may offer a new Share class at net asset value that would not be subject to a front-end sales load or a service and

distribution fee, but would be subject to a minimum purchase requirement. The Fund intends to continue to offer Initial Class Shares at net asset value subject to a sales load, a service and distribution fee, and minimum purchase requirements. The Fund may in the future adopt this or another structure with respect to distribution and service expenses. The Fund does not plan to offer exchange privileges.<sup>1</sup>

4. In order to provide a limited degree of liquidity to Shareholders, the Funds may from time to time offer to repurchase Shares at net asset value in accordance with rule 13e-4 under the 1934 Act pursuant to written tenders by shareholders. A Fund will repurchase Shares at the times, in the amounts and on the terms as may be determined by the Board of Trustees ("Board") of the Fund in its sole discretion. The Adviser expects to recommend ordinarily that the Board authorize each Fund to offer to repurchase Shares from Shareholders quarterly.

5. Applicants request that the order also apply to any other continuously offered registered closed-end management investment companies existing now or in the future for which the Advisers, the Distributor, or any entity controlling, controlled by or under common control with the Adviser or the Distributor acts as investment adviser or principal underwriter, and which provides periodic liquidity with respect to its Shares pursuant to rule 13e-4 under the 1934 Act (such investment companies, together with the Fund, the "Funds").<sup>2</sup>

6. Applicants represent that any asset-based service and distribution fees will comply with the provisions of rule 2830(d) of the Conduct Rules of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD Conduct Rule 2830").<sup>3</sup> Applicants also represent that each Fund will disclose in its prospectus, the fees, expenses and other characteristics of each class of Shares offered for sale by the prospectus as is required for open-end multiple class funds under Form N-1A. The Fund will disclose fund expenses in shareholder reports as if it were an open-end management investment company, and disclose any arrangements that result in

<sup>1</sup> The Fund also will not impose either an early withdrawal charge, or repurchase fee or a contingent deferred sales charge.

<sup>2</sup> Any Fund relying on this relief in the future will do so in a manner consistent with the terms and conditions of the application. Applicants represent that any person presently intending to rely on the requested relief is listed as an applicant.

<sup>3</sup> All references to NASD Conduct Rule 2830 include any successor or replacement rule that may be adopted by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA").