

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc.
Form N-2/A
October 31, 2013

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 31, 2013

Securities Act Registration No. 333-191067

Investment Company Registration No. 811-22693

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 ☒

Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1

Post-Effective Amendment No. "

and/or

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER
THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 ☒

Amendment No. 7

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor

New York, New York 10018

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(888) 777-0102

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Kenneth D. Fuller

Legg Mason & Co., LLC

620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor

New York, New York 10018

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

Copies to:

Sarah E. Cogan, Esq.

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

425 Lexington Avenue

New York, NY 10017

Robert I. Frenkel, Esq.

Legg Mason & Co., LLC

100 First Stamford Place

Stamford, CT 06902

Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

Edgar Filing: ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. - Form N-2/A

If any of the securities being registered on this form will be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box. ☒ x

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box) ☐ when declared effective pursuant to section 8(c)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Title of Securities Being Registered	Amount Being Registered⁽¹⁾	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price⁽²⁾	Amount of Registration Fee
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value		\$300,000,000	\$40,920 ⁽³⁾

- (1) There are being registered hereunder a presently indeterminate number of shares of common stock to be offered on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis.
- (2) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933. In no event will the aggregate initial offering price of all securities offered from time to time pursuant to the prospectus included as a part of this Registration Statement exceed \$300,000,000.
- (3) Previously paid.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that the Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such dates as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this Prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the Registration Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This Prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion Dated , 2013

PRELIMINARY BASE PROSPECTUS

\$300,000,000

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc.

Common Stock

The Fund. ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. (the Fund) is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company.

Investment Objective. The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of total return, consisting of cash distributions and capital appreciation. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

Investment Strategies. The Fund seeks to achieve its objective by investing primarily in energy master limited partnerships (MLPs).

Portfolio Contents. Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets (as defined below) in energy MLPs (the 80% policy). For purposes of the 80% policy, the Fund considers investments in MLPs to include investments that offer economic exposure to public and private MLPs in the form of MLP equity securities, securities of entities holding primarily general partner or managing member interests in MLPs, securities that are derivatives of interests in MLPs, including I-Shares, exchange-traded funds that primarily hold MLP interests and debt securities of MLPs. Energy entities are engaged in the business of exploring, developing, producing, gathering, transporting, processing, storing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products or coal. Please see The Fund's Investments for a more detailed discussion of the Fund's potential investments.

The Fund's shares of common stock (Common Stock) are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the trading or ticker symbol CTR. The net asset value of our Common Stock at the close of business on October 28, 2013 was \$22.83 per share, and the last sale price per share of our Common Stock on the NYSE on that date was \$22.53. Shares of closed-end funds often trade at a discount from net asset value.

Offering. The Fund may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings, our Common Stock, which we also refer to as our securities, at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more Prospectus Supplements to this Prospectus.

We may offer and sell our securities to or through underwriters, through dealers or agents that we designate from time to time, directly to purchasers, through at-the-market offerings or through a combination of these methods. If an offering of securities involves any underwriters, dealers or agents, then the applicable Prospectus Supplement will name the underwriters, dealers or agents and will provide information regarding any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangements made with those underwriters, dealers or agents or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We may not sell any of our securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a Prospectus Supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our securities.

(continued on following page)

Investing in the Fund's securities involves certain risks. You could lose some or all of your investment. See Risks beginning on page 59 of this Prospectus and any Prospectus Supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this Prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Prospectus dated , 2013.

(continued from previous page)

Tax Matters. Entities commonly referred to as MLPs are generally organized under state law as limited partnerships or limited liability companies. If publicly traded, MLPs must derive at least 90% of their gross income from qualifying sources as described in Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), in order to be taxed as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes.

The Fund is treated as a regular corporation, or a C corporation, for United States federal income tax purposes and, as a result, unlike most investment companies, is subject to corporate income tax to the extent the Fund recognizes taxable income. Any taxes paid by the Fund will reduce the amount available to pay distributions to holders of Common Stock (Common Stockholders), and therefore investors in the Fund will likely receive lower distributions than if they invested directly in MLPs. Given the Fund's concentration in MLPs, the Fund is not eligible to be treated as a regulated investment company under the Code. The types of MLPs in which the Fund intends to invest historically have made cash distributions to limited partners or members that exceed the amount of taxable income allocable to limited partners or members due to a variety of factors, including significant non-cash deductions such as depreciation and depletion, although there can be no assurance that they will continue to do so. If the cash distributions exceed the taxable income reported in a particular tax year, the excess cash distributions would not be taxed as income to the Fund in that tax year but rather would be treated as a return of capital for United States federal income tax purposes to the extent of the Fund's basis in its MLP units. Similarly, the Fund expects to distribute cash in excess of its earnings and profits to Common Stockholders which may be treated as a return of capital to the extent of the Common Stockholders' cost basis in the Fund's Common Stock. As a result, the Fund's Common Stockholders should expect to receive distributions that are generally tax-deferred and represent a return of capital, although no assurance can be given in this regard. For tax purposes, a return of capital generally represents a return of a Common Stockholder's initial investment in the Fund rather than a distribution of the Fund's earnings. Any distribution received by Common Stockholders that is treated as a return of capital generally will result in a reduction in basis in their shares, which may increase the capital gain, or reduce the capital loss, realized upon the sale of such shares. As a result, a Common Stockholder that receives a return of capital distribution may be required to pay tax on a sale of shares even if such Common Stockholder sells such shares for less than the amount of such Common Stockholder's initial investment. In addition, the Fund may have more corporate income tax expense than expected, which will result in less cash available to distribute to Common Stockholders.

Leverage. The Fund may seek to enhance the level of its cash distributions to holders of Common Stock through the use of leverage. The Fund currently uses leverage through borrowings and may in the future continue to use leverage through borrowings, including loans from certain financial institutions and/or the issuance of debt securities (collectively, Borrowings), in an aggregate amount of up to ~~33~~³³% of the Fund's total assets immediately after such Borrowings. Furthermore, the Fund may use leverage through the issuance of preferred stock (Preferred Stock) in an aggregate amount of up to 50% of the Fund's total assets immediately after such issuance. Currently, the Fund has no intention to issue Preferred Stock. As of May 31, 2013, we had outstanding senior secured notes and a revolving credit facility with a financial institution in place under which we had Borrowings representing approximately 23.0% of our Managed Assets. Managed Assets means net assets plus the amount of any Borrowings and assets attributable to any Preferred Stock that may be outstanding. The Fund may increase its Borrowings after the completion of any offering of Common Shares pursuant to this Prospectus and any Prospectus Supplement up to 33 ¹/₃% of the Fund's Managed Assets at the time of Borrowing after taking into account the offering of additional Common Shares. Our Common Stock is junior in liquidation and distribution rights to our senior secured notes and our existing credit facility. See Use of Leverage Effects of Leverage, Risk Factors Leverage Risk and Description of Shares.

For more information on the Fund's investment strategies, see The Fund's Investments and Risks.

Investment Manager and Subadviser. Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC (LMPFA), the Fund's investment manager, supervises the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio by ClearBridge Investments, LLC (f/k/a ClearBridge Advisors, LLC) (ClearBridge) and provides administrative and management services to the Fund. As of September 30, 2013, LMPFA's total assets under management were approximately \$211.5 billion.

(continued from previous page)

ClearBridge, the Fund's subadviser, is responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund, subject to the supervision of the Fund's Board of Directors and LMPFA. As of September 30, 2013, ClearBridge's total assets under management were approximately \$77.3 billion.

This Prospectus is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), using the shelf registration process. Under the shelf registration process, we may offer, from time to time, separately or together in one or more offerings, the securities described in this Prospectus. The securities may be offered at prices and on terms described in one or more supplements to this Prospectus. This Prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities that we may offer. Each time we use this Prospectus to offer securities, we will provide a Prospectus Supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. The Prospectus Supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this Prospectus. This Prospectus, together with any Prospectus Supplement, sets forth concisely the information about us that a prospective investor ought to know before investing. You should read this Prospectus and the related Prospectus Supplement before deciding whether to invest and retain them for future reference. A Statement of Additional Information, dated _____, 2013 (the "SAI"), containing additional information about us, has been filed with the SEC and is incorporated by reference in its entirety into this Prospectus. You may request a free copy of the SAI (the table of contents of which is on page 100 of this Prospectus), annual and semi-annual reports to stockholders (when available), and additional information about the Fund by calling (888) 777-0102, by writing to the Fund at 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, NY 10018 or visiting the Fund's website (<http://www.lmcef.com>). The information contained in, or accessed through, the Fund's website is not part of this Prospectus. You may also obtain a copy of the SAI (and other information regarding the Fund) from the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information relating to the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. Such materials, as well as the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports (when available) and other information regarding the Fund, are also available on the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>). You may also e-mail requests for these documents to publicinfo@sec.gov or make a request in writing to the SEC's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

Shares of common stock of closed-end investment companies, like ours, frequently trade at discounts to their net asset values. If our common stock trades at a discount to our net asset value, the risk of loss may increase for purchasers of our Common Stock, especially for those investors who expect to sell their Common Stock in a relatively short period after purchasing shares in this offering. See Risk Factors Market Discount from Net Asset Value Risk.

The Fund's securities do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other governmental agency.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<u>Prospectus Summary</u>	1
<u>Summary of Fund Expenses</u>	41
<u>Financial Highlights</u>	43
<u>Senior Securities</u>	44
<u>The Fund</u>	45
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	45
<u>Market and Net Asset Value Information</u>	45
<u>The Fund's Investments</u>	46
<u>Use of Leverage</u>	56
<u>Risks</u>	59
<u>Management of the Fund</u>	77
<u>Net Asset Value</u>	81
<u>Distributions</u>	83
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	84
<u>Description of Shares</u>	86
<u>Certain Provisions in the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws</u>	88
<u>Repurchase of Fund Shares</u>	92
<u>Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	92
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	98
<u>Custodian and Transfer Agent</u>	101
<u>Legal Opinions</u>	101
<u>Table of Contents of the Statement of Additional Information</u>	102

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and any related Prospectus Supplement. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted or where the person making the offer or sale is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is not permitted to make such offer or sale. You should assume that the information appearing in this Prospectus and any Prospectus Supplement is accurate only as of the respective dates on their front covers, regardless of the time of delivery of this Prospectus, any Prospectus Supplement, or any sale of our securities. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This is only a summary. This summary does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the Fund's Common Stock. You should review the more detailed information contained elsewhere in this Prospectus, any related Prospectus Supplements and in the Statement of Additional Information (the SAI), especially the information under the heading Risks. Unless otherwise indicated or the content otherwise requires, references to we, us and our refer to ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc.

The Fund

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. (the Fund) is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company.

The Offering

The Fund may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings, up to \$300,000,000 of our common stock (Common Stock), which we also refer to as our securities, at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more prospectus supplements (each, a Prospectus Supplement) to this Prospectus. We may offer and sell our securities to or through underwriters, through dealers or agents that we designate from time to time, directly to purchasers, through at-the-market offerings or through a combination of these methods. If an offering of securities involves any underwriters, dealers or agents, then the applicable Prospectus Supplement will name the underwriters, dealers or agents and will provide information regarding any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangements made with those underwriters, dealers or agents or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See Plan of Distribution. We may not sell any of our securities through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a Prospectus Supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of our securities.

Use of Proceeds

Unless otherwise specified in a Prospectus Supplement, the Fund intends to invest the net proceeds of any offering of securities in accordance with its investment objective and policies as stated herein. It is currently anticipated that the Fund will be able to invest substantially all of the net proceeds of an offering of securities in accordance with its investment objective and policies within three months after the completion of any such offering. Pending such investment, it is anticipated that the proceeds will be invested in U.S. government securities or high quality, short-term money market securities.

Who May Want to Invest

Investors should consider their financial situations and needs, other investments, investment goals, investment experience, time horizons, liquidity needs and risk tolerance before investing in the Fund. An investment in the Fund is not appropriate for all investors, and the Fund is not intended to be a complete investment program. The Fund is designed as a long-term investment and not as a trading vehicle. The Fund may be an appropriate investment for investors who are seeking:

A portfolio of energy master limited partnerships (MLPs) with a focus on MLPs with higher distribution growth rates;

The opportunity for attractive tax-deferred distributions with a combined emphasis on capital appreciation;

Simplified tax reporting compared to direct investments in MLPs;

Potential diversification of their overall investment portfolio; and

Security selection through the professional, active management of ClearBridge Investments, LLC (f/k/a ClearBridge Advisors, LLC) (ClearBridge).

An MLP's total return consists of two parts: distributions paid and capital appreciation. Presently, ClearBridge believes certain investors place too much emphasis on current distribution rates and do not effectively value an MLP's prospects for distribution growth. MLPs' distribution growth rates have historically varied widely, a trend that ClearBridge believes will continue in the future. ClearBridge also believes that distribution growth is the primary driver for MLP investment capital appreciation. A focus on MLP's with higher distribution growth rates, therefore, can help the Fund deliver attractive current distributions and offer the potential for above-average total returns.

Furthermore, ClearBridge believes that energy MLPs present an attractive investment opportunity. MLPs combine the tax benefits associated with limited partnerships with the liquidity of publicly traded securities. The types of MLPs in which the Fund intends to invest historically have made cash distributions to limited partners or members that exceed the amount of taxable income allocable to limited partners or members due to a variety of factors, including significant non-cash deductions, such as depreciation and depletion, although there can be no assurance that they will continue to do so. If the cash distributions exceed the taxable income reported in a particular tax year, the excess cash distributions would not be taxed as income to the Fund in that tax year but rather would be treated as a return of capital for United States federal income tax purposes to the extent of the Fund's basis in its MLP units. Similarly, the Fund expects to distribute cash in excess of its earnings and profits to holders of Common Stock (the Common Stockholders) which may be treated as a return of capital to the extent of the Common Stockholders' cost basis in the Fund's Common Stock. As a result, the Fund's Common Stockholders should expect to receive distributions that are generally tax-deferred and represent a return of capital, although no assurance can be given in this regard. This will result in a reduction in basis in their shares, which may increase the capital gain, or reduce capital loss, realized upon sale of such shares. In addition, the Fund may have more corporate income tax expense than expected, which will result in less cash available to distribute to Common Stockholders.

Investment Objective

The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of total return, consisting of cash distributions and capital appreciation. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

Investment Strategies

Under normal market conditions, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets (as defined below) in energy MLPs (the 80%

policy). For purposes of the 80% policy, the Fund considers investments in MLPs to include investments that offer economic exposure to public and private MLPs in the form of MLP equity securities, securities of entities holding primarily general partner or managing member interests in MLPs, securities that are derivatives of interests in MLPs, including I-Shares, exchange-traded funds that primarily hold MLP interests and debt securities of MLPs. Energy entities are engaged in the business of exploring, developing, producing, gathering, transporting, processing, storing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products or coal.

ClearBridge continues to believe that certain investors place too much emphasis on current distribution rates and do not effectively value an MLP's prospects for distribution growth. MLPs' distribution growth rates have historically varied widely, a trend that ClearBridge believes will continue in the future. ClearBridge also believes that distribution growth is the primary driver for MLP investment capital appreciation. A focus on MLPs with higher distribution growth rates, therefore, can help the Fund deliver attractive current distributions and offer the potential for above average total returns.

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in securities of issuers that are not MLPs. This 20% allocation may be in any of the securities described in this Prospectus and the SAI, including securities of non-MLP companies engaged primarily in the energy sector. Such issuers may be treated as corporations for United States federal income tax purposes and, therefore, may not offer the tax benefits of investing in MLPs described in this Prospectus.

The Fund may invest up to 30% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities. Restricted securities are securities that are unregistered, held by control persons of the issuer or subject to contractual restrictions on resale. In connection with its investments in restricted securities generally, the Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets in restricted securities issued by non-public companies.

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in debt securities of MLPs and other issuers, including both investment grade debt securities and debt securities rated below investment grade (that is, rated Ba or lower by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. (Moody's), BB+ or lower by Standard & Poor's Ratings Group (S&P) or Fitch Ratings (Fitch), comparably rated by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization (NRSRO), or, if unrated, as determined by ClearBridge to be of comparable credit quality). Securities rated below investment grade are commonly called high yield or junk bonds and are considered predominantly speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal according to the terms of the obligation and involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions.

Managed Assets means net assets plus the amount of any Borrowings (as defined below) and assets attributable to any preferred stock (**Preferred Stock**) that may be outstanding. For as long as **Energy MLP** is in the name of the Fund, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs. The Fund may not change its policy to invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs unless it provides stockholders with at least 60 days' written notice of such change.

For a more complete discussion of the Fund's portfolio composition, see **The Fund's Investments**.

The Fund's Investments

Master Limited Partnerships. Entities commonly referred to as **MLPs** are generally organized under state law as limited partnerships or limited liability companies. The Fund intends to primarily invest in MLPs receiving partnership taxation treatment under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the **Code**), and whose interests or **units** are traded on securities exchanges like shares of corporate stock. To be treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes, an MLP whose units are traded on a securities exchange must receive at least 90% of its gross income from qualifying sources such as interest, dividends, real estate rents, gain from the sale or disposition of real property, income and gain from mineral or natural resources activities, income and gain from the transportation or storage of certain fuels, and, in certain circumstances, income and gain from commodities or futures, forwards and options with respect to commodities. Mineral or natural resources activities include exploration, development, production, processing, mining, refining, marketing and transportation (including pipelines) of oil and gas, minerals, geothermal energy, fertilizer, timber or industrial source carbon dioxide. An MLP consists of a general partner and limited partners (or in the case of MLPs organized as limited liability companies, a managing member and members). The general partner or managing member typically controls the operations and management of the MLP and has an ownership stake in the MLP. The limited partners or members, through their ownership of limited partner or member interests, provide capital to the entity, are intended to have no role in the operation and management of the entity and receive cash distributions. The MLPs themselves generally do not pay United States federal income taxes. Thus, unlike investors in corporate securities, direct MLP investors are generally not subject to double taxation (i.e., corporate level tax and tax on corporate dividends). Currently, most MLPs operate in the energy and/or natural resources sectors.

MLP Equity Securities. Equity securities issued by MLPs currently consist of common units, subordinated units and preferred units.

MLP Common Units. MLP common units are typically listed and traded on national securities exchanges, including the New York Stock Exchange (the **NYSE**) and the NASDAQ Stock Market (**NASDAQ**). The Fund typically purchases MLP common units

through open market transactions, but may also acquire MLP common units through direct placements. Holders of MLP common units have limited control and voting rights. Holders of MLP common units are typically entitled to receive a minimum quarterly distribution (MQD), including arrearage rights, from the issuer.

MLP Subordinated Units. MLP subordinated units are not typically listed on an exchange or publicly traded. The Fund typically purchases MLP subordinated units through negotiated transactions directly with affiliates of MLPs and institutional holders of such units or purchases newly-issued subordinated units directly from MLPs. Holders of MLP subordinated units are entitled to receive MQDs after payments to holders of common units have been satisfied and prior to incentive distributions to the general partner or managing member. MLP subordinated units do not provide arrearage rights. Most MLP subordinated units are convertible into common units after the passage of a specified period of time or upon the achievement by the MLP of specified financial goals.

MLP Preferred Units. MLP preferred units are not typically listed on an exchange or publicly traded. The Fund typically purchases MLP preferred units through negotiated transactions directly with MLPs, affiliates of MLPs and institutional holders of such units. Holders of MLP preferred units can be entitled to a wide range of voting and other rights, depending on the structure of each separate security.

Other Equity Securities. The Fund may invest in equity securities issued by affiliates of MLPs, including the general partners or managing members of MLPs. Such issuers may be organized and/or taxed as corporations and therefore may not offer the advantageous tax characteristics of MLP units. The Fund intends to purchase equity securities through market transactions, but may also acquire equity securities through direct placements.

I-Shares. I-Shares represent an ownership interest issued by an MLP affiliate. The MLP affiliate uses the proceeds from the sale of I-Shares to purchase limited partnership interests in the MLP in the form of I-units. Thus, I-Shares represent an indirect interest in an MLP limited partnership interest. I-units generally have similar features as MLP common units in terms of voting rights and distribution but often may be subordinated in liquidation rights. I-Shares themselves have limited voting rights and are similar in that respect to MLP common units. I-Shares differ from MLP common units primarily in that instead of receiving cash distributions, holders of I-Shares will receive distributions of additional I-Shares in an amount equal to the cash distributions received by common unit holders. I-Shares are traded on the NYSE. The tax treatment of the distributions of additional I-Shares received (which are generally tax-free) will depend upon the particular terms of the investment, including the issuer of the I-Shares and the tax status of such issuer.

MLP General Partner or Managing Member Interests. The general partner or managing member interest in MLPs is typically retained by the original sponsors of an MLP, such as its founders, corporate

partners and entities that sell assets to the MLP. The holder of the general partner or managing member interest can be liable in certain circumstances for amounts greater than the amount of the holder's investment in the general partner or managing member. General partner or managing member interests often confer direct board participation rights in, and in many cases control over the operations of, the MLP. General partner or managing member interests can be privately held or owned by publicly traded entities. General partner or managing member interests receive cash distributions, typically in an amount of up to 2% of available cash, which is contractually defined in the partnership or limited liability company agreement. In addition, holders of general partner or managing member interests typically receive incentive distribution rights (IDRs), which provide them with an increasing share of the entity's aggregate cash distributions upon the payment of common unit distributions that exceed specified threshold levels above the MQD. Due to the IDRs, general partners of MLPs have higher distribution growth prospects than their underlying MLPs, but quarterly incentive distribution payments would also decline at a greater rate than the decline rate in quarterly distributions to common and subordinated unit holders in the event of a reduction in the MLP's quarterly distribution. The ability of the limited partners or members to remove the general partner or managing member without cause is typically very limited. In addition, some MLPs permit the holder of IDRs to reset, under specified circumstances, the incentive distribution levels and receive compensation in exchange for the distribution rights given up in the reset.

Non-MLP Equity Securities. The Fund may invest in common and preferred stock, convertible securities, warrants and depository receipts of companies that are organized as corporations, limited liability companies or limited partnerships.

Restricted Securities. The Fund may invest up to 30% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities. Restricted securities are securities that are unregistered or subject to contractual or other legal restrictions on resale. The Fund typically acquires restricted securities in directly negotiated transactions.

In connection with its investments in restricted securities generally, the Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets in restricted securities issued by non-public companies. In some instances, such an investment may be made with the expectation that the assets of such non-public company will be contributed to a newly-formed MLP or sold to or merged with an existing MLP in the future.

Debt Securities. The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in debt securities of MLPs and other issuers, including both investment grade debt securities and debt securities rated below investment grade. Securities rated below investment grade are commonly called "high yield" or "junk" bonds. The Fund may invest in debt securities without regard for their maturity. See "Risks Below Investment Grade (High Yield or Junk Bond) Securities Risk."

Royalty Trusts. The Fund may invest in royalty trusts. However, such investments do not count towards the Fund's 80% policy. Royalty trusts are publicly traded investment vehicles that gather income on royalties and pay out almost all cash flows to stockholders as distributions. Royalty trusts typically have no physical operations and no management or employees. Typically royalty trusts own the rights to royalties on the production and sales of a natural resource, including oil, gas, minerals and timber. As these deplete, production and cash flows steadily decline, which may decrease distribution rates. Royalty trusts are, in some respects, similar to certain MLPs and include risks similar to those MLPs.

Other Sector Investments. The Fund may invest in MLPs or MLP affiliates in other sectors of the economy. For instance, the Fund may invest in entities operating in the natural resources sector including companies principally engaged in owning or developing non-energy natural resources (including timber and minerals) and industrial materials, or supplying goods or services to such companies. Additionally, the Fund may invest in MLPs that focus on developing infrastructure assets.

Foreign Securities. The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers, including securities traded on non-U.S. exchanges and emerging markets. Such investments in securities of foreign issuers may include investments in American Depositary Receipts, or ADRs. ADRs are certificates evidencing ownership of shares of a foreign issuer that are issued by depositary banks and generally trade on an established market in the United States or elsewhere.

Non-Diversification. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets, at the time of purchase, in securities of any single issuer.

Comparison with Direct Investment in MLPs

The Fund seeks to provide an efficient vehicle through which the Fund's Common Stockholders may invest in energy MLPs. An investment in the Fund offers investors several advantages as compared to direct investments in MLPs, including the following:

Simplified tax reporting. Investors in the Fund, while gaining exposure to multiple MLPs, will receive a single Form 1099, while direct MLP investors receive Schedules K-1 from each MLP in which they are invested. Also, direct MLP investors may be required to file state income tax returns for each state in which the MLP operates, while investors in the Fund are not required to file state income tax returns in any state in which they are not otherwise required to file tax returns. However, since the MLPs in which the Fund invests generally will not deliver their Schedules K-1 to the Fund until after the Fund must deliver Forms 1099 to its Common Stockholders, if the Schedules K-1 received by the Fund show that the Fund has miscalculated its income attributable to any such MLPs, the Fund may have to send corrected Forms 1099 to its Common Stockholders, which may result in a Common Stockholder being required to request an extension to file its tax return or to amend a previously filed tax return.

Access to investments typically unavailable to retail investors. In addition to publicly traded MLPs, the Fund may invest in MLPs through direct placements. Direct placements may offer the potential for increased returns, but are usually available only to institutional investors. These investments may entail greater risks than investments in publicly traded MLPs.

Favorable tax treatment. Distributions from the Fund are generally tax-deferred although no assurance can be given in this regard. To the extent that distributions exceed the Fund's earnings and profits, distributions are generally not treated as taxable income for the investor. Instead, the Fund's Common Stockholders will experience a reduction in bases in their shares, which may increase the capital gain, or reduce capital loss, realized upon sale of such shares. See "Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations" and "Risks" Tax Risks of Investing in Equity Securities of MLPs.

Potential for inclusion in IRAs and other retirement accounts. Because distributions are not considered unrelated business taxable income (UBTI), IRAs, 401(k) plans and other employee benefit plans may invest in the Fund.

Suitable for corporate investments and investment companies. Subject to certain holding period and other requirements, any distributions by the Fund that may be taxable as dividends (i.e., distributions out of the Fund's current or accumulated earnings and profits) generally will be eligible for the dividends received deduction in the case of corporate stockholders and generally will be treated as qualified dividend income eligible for reduced rates of taxation for stockholders taxed as individuals. In addition, the Fund's Common Stock dividends will be treated as qualifying income for each of the Fund's Common Stockholders that is an investment company (including mutual funds) that has elected to be taxed as a regulated investment company. In contrast, income received directly by such investment companies from MLPs may not be treated as qualifying income by such investment companies.

Investors in the Fund are subject to the management fees and other expenses of investing in the Fund. Investors investing directly in an MLP do not have to bear these costs.

Leverage

The Fund may seek to enhance the level of its cash distributions to holders of Common Stock through the use of leverage. The Fund currently uses leverage through borrowings and may in the future continue to use leverage through borrowing, including loans from certain financial institutions and/or the issuance of debt securities (collectively, Borrowings) in an aggregate amount of up to $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ of the Fund's total assets immediately after such Borrowings. In addition, the Fund may enter into investment management techniques that have similar effects as leverage, but which are not subject to the foregoing $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ limitation so long as the Fund has covered its commitment with respect to such techniques by segregating liquid

assets, entering into offsetting transactions or owning positions covering its obligations. Furthermore, the Fund may use leverage through the issuance of Preferred Stock in an aggregate amount of up to 50% of the Fund's total assets immediately after such issuance. The Fund may not use leverage at all times, and the amount of leverage may vary depending upon a number of factors, including Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC's (LMPFA) and ClearBridge's outlook for the market and the costs that the Fund would incur as a result of such leverage. There is no assurance that the Fund's leveraging strategy will be successful.

Borrowings (and any Preferred Stock) have seniority over Common Stock. Any Borrowings and Preferred Stock (if issued) leverage investments in Common Stock. Common Stockholders bear the costs associated with any Borrowings, and if the Fund issues Preferred Stock, Common Stockholders bear the offering costs of the Preferred Stock issuance. The Board of Directors of the Fund may authorize the use of leverage through Borrowings and Preferred Stock without the approval of the Common Stockholders.

During periods when the Fund is using leverage through Borrowings or the issuance of Preferred Stock, the fees paid to LMPFA and ClearBridge for advisory services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund's Managed Assets, which includes the principal amount of the Borrowings and any assets attributable to the issuance of Preferred Stock. This means that LMPFA and ClearBridge have a financial incentive to increase the Fund's use of leverage. See *Use of Leverage* and *Risks* *Leverage Risk*.

As of May 31, 2013, we had outstanding senior secured notes and a revolving credit facility with a financial institution in place under which we had Borrowings representing approximately 23.0% of our Managed Assets. The Borrowings rank senior to our Common Stock. Under current market conditions, the Fund intends to continue to utilize leverage principally through Borrowings in an amount up to 20-25% of its Managed Assets. The Fund has no current intention to issue Preferred Stock, but circumstances may arise such that the Fund may choose to issue Preferred Stock.

Tax Considerations

Taxation. Entities commonly referred to as MLPs are generally organized under state law as limited partnerships or limited liability companies. If publicly traded, MLPs must derive at least 90% of their gross income from qualifying sources as described in Section 7704 of the Code, in order to be taxed as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes. The Fund intends to invest primarily in MLPs that are taxed as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes, and, except for purposes of the 80% policy, references in this Prospectus to MLPs include only MLPs that are so taxed.

The Fund is treated as a regular corporation, or a C corporation, for United States federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Fund incurs federal and applicable state corporate taxes on its taxable

income which will decrease the amount available to pay distributions to Common Stockholders, and therefore investors in the Fund will likely receive lower distributions than if they invested directly in MLPs. The types of MLPs in which the Fund intends to invest historically have made cash distributions to limited partners or members that exceed the amount of taxable income allocable to limited partners or members, due to a variety of factors, including significant non-cash deductions, such as depreciation and depletion, although there can be no assurance that they will continue to do so. If the cash distributions exceed the taxable income reported in a particular tax year, the excess cash distributions would not be taxed as income to the Fund in that tax year but rather would be treated as a return of capital for United States federal income tax purposes to the extent of the Fund's basis in its MLP units. See Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Stockholder tax features. The Fund expects to pay cash distributions to its Common Stockholders in excess of its taxable income per share, although no assurance can be given in this regard. If the Fund distributes cash from current or accumulated earnings and profits as computed for United States federal income tax purposes, such distributions will generally be taxable to Common Stockholders to the extent of such earnings and profits in the current period as dividend income for United States federal income tax purposes. Subject to certain holding period and other requirements, such dividend income will generally be eligible for the dividends received deduction in the case of corporate stockholders and will generally be treated as qualified dividend income eligible for reduced rates of taxation for stockholders taxed as individuals. If the Fund's distributions exceed its current and accumulated earnings and profits as computed for United States federal income tax purposes, such excess distributions will constitute a non-taxable return of capital to the extent of a Common Stockholder's basis in such holder's Common Stock and will result in a reduction of such basis. To the extent that excess exceeds a Common Stockholder's basis in such holder's Common Stock, the excess will be taxed as capital gain. The Fund expects that a significant portion of its distributions to its Common Stockholders will constitute a non-taxable return of capital and will reduce their bases in the Common Stock. Upon the sale of Common Stock, a Common Stockholder generally will recognize capital gain or loss measured by the difference between the sale proceeds received by the Fund's Common Stockholder and the holder's United States federal income tax basis in the Common Stock sold, as adjusted to reflect returns of capital.

Derivatives

Generally, derivatives are financial contracts whose value depends upon, or is derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index, and may relate to individual debt or equity instruments, interest rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, commodities, related indexes and other assets. The Fund may enter into derivative transactions, such as interest rate swaps, options contracts, futures

contracts, forward contracts, options on futures contracts and indexed securities for investment, hedging and risk management purposes; provided that the Fund's exposure to derivative instruments, as measured by the total notional amount of all such instruments, will not exceed 33 1/3% of its Managed Assets. To the extent that the security or index underlying the derivative or synthetic instrument is or is composed of securities of energy MLPs, the Fund will include such derivative and synthetic instruments, at market value, for the purposes of the Fund's 80% policy. The Fund may sell certain securities short.

Certain portfolio management techniques, such as writing futures contracts, engaging in short sales or writing options on portfolio securities, may be considered senior securities for the purposes of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), unless appropriate steps are taken to segregate the Fund's assets or otherwise cover its obligations. ClearBridge intends to cover the Fund's commitment with respect to such techniques should the Fund enter into or engage in one or more of such techniques. To the extent the Fund uses such techniques, the Fund expects to cover its commitment with respect to such techniques by segregating liquid assets, entering into offsetting transactions or owning positions covering its obligations; the instrument will not be considered a senior security for the purposes of the 1940 Act. The Fund may cover such transactions using other methods currently or in the future permitted under the 1940 Act, the rules and regulations thereunder or orders issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") thereunder. For these purposes, interpretations and guidance provided by the SEC staff may be taken into account when deemed appropriate by the Fund. These segregation and coverage requirements could result in the Fund maintaining securities positions that it would otherwise liquidate, segregating assets at a time when it might be disadvantageous to do so or otherwise restricting portfolio management. Such segregation and coverage requirements will not limit or offset losses on related positions.

Derivative instruments can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses, and may have a potentially large impact on Fund performance. See "The Fund's Investments—Additional Investment Activities—Derivatives" and "Risks—Derivatives Risk."

Distributions

Under normal market conditions, the Fund intends to distribute substantially all of the Fund's distributable cash flow received as cash distributions from MLPs, interest payments received on debt securities owned by the Fund and other payments on securities owned by the Fund, less Fund expenses.

As of the date of this Prospectus, we have paid distributions to Common Stockholders every fiscal quarter since inception. Cumulative distributions paid since inception total \$1.64 per share (inclusive of the distribution paid to our Common Stockholders on August 30, 2013). We intend to continue to pay quarterly

distributions to our Common Stockholders. Payment of future distributions is subject to approval by our Board of Directors, as well as meeting the covenants under our credit facilities and the asset coverage requirements of the 1940 Act. See [Distributions](#).

Unless a Common Stockholder elects to receive distributions in cash (i.e., opt out), all Common Stock distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of Common Stock under the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan. See [Distributions](#) and [Dividend Reinvestment Plan](#).

Investment Manager

LMPFA is the Fund's investment manager. LMPFA, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason Inc. ([Legg Mason](#)), is a registered investment adviser and supervises the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio by ClearBridge. In addition, LMPFA performs administrative and management services necessary for the operation of the Fund, such as (1) supervising the overall administration of the Fund, including negotiation of contracts and fees with and the monitoring of performance and billings of the Fund's transfer agent, stockholder servicing agents, custodian and other independent contractors or agents; (2) providing certain compliance, Fund accounting, regulatory reporting and tax reporting services; (3) preparing or participating in the preparation of Board materials, registration statements, proxy statements and reports and other communications to stockholders; (4) maintaining the Fund's existence and (5) during such times as shares are publicly offered, maintaining the registration and qualification of the Fund's shares under federal and state laws. As of September 30, 2013, LMPFA's total assets under management were approximately \$211.5 billion. Legg Mason is a global asset management firm. As of September 30, 2013, Legg Mason's asset management operation had aggregate assets under management of approximately \$656.0 billion.

LMPFA receives an annual fee, payable monthly, in an amount equal to 1.00% of the Fund's average daily Managed Assets.

Subadviser

ClearBridge is the Fund's subadviser. ClearBridge, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason, is a registered investment adviser and is responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund subject to the supervision of the Fund's Board of Directors and LMPFA. As of September 30, 2013, ClearBridge's total assets under management were approximately \$77.3 billion.

ClearBridge receives an annual subadvisory fee, payable monthly, from LMPFA in an amount equal to 70% of the management fee paid to LMPFA. No advisory fee is paid by the Fund directly to ClearBridge. See [Management of the Fund](#).

Listing and Symbol

The Fund's shares of Common Stock are listed on the New York Stock Exchange ([NYSE](#)) under the trading or "ticker" symbol [CTR](#). The net asset value of our Common Stock at the close of business on October 28, 2013 was \$22.83 per share, and the last sale price per share of our Common Stock on the NYSE on that date was \$22.53.

Custodian and Transfer Agent

State Street Bank and Trust Company LLC serves as custodian of the Fund's assets. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC serves as the Fund's transfer agent. See Custodian and Transfer Agent.

Special Risk Considerations

An investment in the Fund's securities involves various material risks. The following are the principal risks of investing in the Fund.

Limited History of Operations. The Fund commenced operations on June 26, 2012 as a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company and has a limited history of operations and public trading.

Investment and Market Risk. An investment in the Fund is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire amount that you invest. Your investment in securities represents an indirect investment in MLPs and other securities owned by the Fund, most of which could be purchased directly. The value of the Fund's portfolio securities may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. At any point in time, your securities may be worth less than your original investment.

Risks of Investing in MLP Units. An investment in MLP units involves risks that differ from a similar investment in equity securities, such as common stock, of a corporation. Holders of MLP units have the rights typically afforded to limited partners in a limited partnership. As compared to common stockholders of a corporation, holders of MLP units have more limited control and limited rights to vote on matters affecting the partnership. Holders of MLP units are also exposed to the risk that they will be required to repay amounts to the MLP that are wrongfully distributed to them. There are certain tax risks associated with an investment in MLP units (described further below). Additionally, conflicts of interest may exist among common unit holders, subordinated unit holders and the general partner or managing member of an MLP; for example a conflict may arise as a result of incentive distribution payments.

Tax Risks of Investing in Equity Securities of MLPs. Much of the benefit the Fund derives from its investment in equity securities of MLPs is a result of MLPs generally being treated as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes. Partnerships do not pay United States federal income tax at the partnership level. Rather, each partner of a partnership, in computing its United States federal income tax liability, will include its allocable share of the partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses. A change in current tax law, a change in the business of a given MLP, or a change in the types of income earned by a given MLP, could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes, which would result in such MLP being required to pay United States federal income tax on its taxable income. The classification of an MLP as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes would have the effect of reducing the amount of cash available for distribution by the MLP and causing any such

distributions received by the Fund to be taxed as dividend income to the extent of the MLP's current or accumulated earnings and profits. Thus, if any of the MLPs owned by the Fund were treated as corporations for United States federal income tax purposes, the after-tax return to the Fund with respect to its investment in such MLPs would be materially reduced, which could cause a substantial decline in the value of the Common Stock.

In addition, the potential tax benefit to the Fund of investing in MLPs depends in part on the particular MLP securities selected, and whether any distributions paid by such MLPs are treated as a return of capital (as opposed to currently taxable income). Accordingly, the Fund relies on ClearBridge to select MLP securities that provide distributions in excess of allocable taxable income. If ClearBridge fails to do so, a greater portion of the distributions received by the Fund may be comprised of taxable income (which would reduce the ability of the Fund to make distributions to Common Stockholders that are treated as a return of capital for United States federal income tax purposes). In such case, the Fund may have more corporate income tax expense than expected, which would result in less cash available to distribute to Common Stockholders. Also, in connection with managing the Fund's portfolio in order to seek to maximize the potential tax benefits discussed above, ClearBridge may be forced to sell securities at times or prices that may be disadvantageous to the Fund.

The Fund is treated as a regular corporation, or a C corporation, for United States federal income tax purposes and, as a result, unlike most investment companies, is subject to corporate income tax to the extent the Fund recognizes positive returns. Any taxes paid by the Fund reduce the amount available to pay distributions to Common Stockholders, and therefore investors in the Fund will likely receive lower distributions than if they invested directly in MLPs.

To the extent that the Fund invests in the equity securities of an MLP, the Fund will be a partner in such MLP. Accordingly, the Fund is required to include in its taxable income the Fund's allocable share of the income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses recognized by each such MLP, regardless of whether the MLP distributes cash to the Fund. Historically, MLPs have been able to offset a significant portion of their income with tax deductions. The Fund incurs a current tax liability on its allocable share of an MLP's income and gains that are not offset by the MLP's tax deductions, losses and credits, or its net operating loss carryforwards, if any. The portion, if any, of a distribution received by the Fund from an MLP that is offset by the MLP's tax deductions, losses or credits is treated as a return of capital. However, those distributions reduce the Fund's adjusted tax basis in the equity securities of the MLP, which results in an increase in the amount of gain (or decrease in the amount of loss) that is recognized by the Fund for United States federal income tax purposes upon the sale of any such equity securities or upon subsequent

distributions in respect of such equity securities. The percentage of an MLP's income and gains that are offset by tax deductions, losses and credits will fluctuate over time for various reasons. A significant slowdown in acquisition activity or capital spending by MLPs held in the Fund's portfolio could result in a reduction of accelerated depreciation generated by new acquisitions, which may result in increased current tax liability for the Fund.

The Fund accrues deferred income taxes for its future tax liability associated with the difference between the Fund's tax basis in an MLP security and the fair market value of the MLP security. Upon the Fund's sale of an MLP security, the Fund will be liable for previously deferred taxes on taxable realized gains from such sale. The Fund relies to some extent on information provided by MLPs, which may not necessarily be timely, to estimate its deferred tax liability for purposes of financial statement reporting and determining its net asset value. From time to time, the Fund may modify its estimates or assumptions regarding its deferred tax liability as new information becomes available.

Because of the Fund's status as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes and its investments in equity securities of MLPs, the Fund's earnings and profits for financial reporting purposes are calculated under GAAP, which are different from those used for calculating taxable income. Because of these differences, the Fund may make distributions out of its current or accumulated earnings and profits, which will be treated as dividends, in excess of its taxable income. See Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

In addition, changes in tax laws or regulations, or future interpretations of such laws or regulations, could adversely affect the Fund or the MLP investments in which the Fund invests. In particular, certain recent proposals have called for the elimination of tax incentives widely used by oil, gas and coal companies and the imposition of new fees on certain energy producers. The elimination of such tax incentives and imposition of such fees could materially adversely affect MLPs in which the Fund invests and the energy sector generally.

Lack of Diversification of MLP Customers and Suppliers. Certain MLPs in which the Fund invests or may invest in the future depend upon a limited number of customers for substantially all of their revenue. Similarly, certain MLPs in which the Fund invests or may invest in the future depend upon a limited number of suppliers of goods or services to continue their operations. The loss of any such customers or suppliers could materially adversely affect such MLPs' results of operations and cash flow, and their ability to make distributions to unit holders, such as the Fund, would therefore be materially adversely affected.

Affiliated Party Risk. Certain MLPs in which the Fund may invest depend upon their parent or sponsor entities for the majority of their

revenues. If their parent or sponsor entities fail to make such payments or satisfy their obligations, the revenues and cash flows of such MLPs and ability of such MLPs to make distributions to unit holders, such as the Fund, would be adversely affected.

Equity Securities Risk. A substantial percentage of the Fund's assets are invested in equity securities, including MLP common units, MLP subordinated units, MLP preferred units, equity securities of MLP affiliates, including I-Shares, and common stocks of other issuers. Equity risk is the risk that MLP units or other equity securities held by the Fund will fall due to general market or economic conditions, perceptions regarding the industries in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, changes in interest rates, and the particular circumstances and performance of particular companies whose securities the Fund holds. The price of an equity security of an issuer may be particularly sensitive to general movements in the stock market, or a drop in the stock market may depress the price of most or all of the equity securities held by the Fund. In addition, MLP units or other equity securities held by the Fund may decline in price if the issuer fails to make anticipated distributions or dividend payments because, among other reasons, the issuer experiences a decline in its financial condition.

MLP subordinated units typically are convertible to MLP common units at a one-to-one ratio. The price of MLP subordinated units is typically tied to the price of the corresponding MLP common unit, less a discount. The size of the discount depends upon a variety of factors, including the likelihood of conversion, the length of time remaining until conversion and the size of the block of subordinated units being purchased or sold.

I-Shares represent an indirect investment in MLP I-units. Prices and volatilities of I-Shares tend to correlate to the price of common units. Holders of I-Shares are subject to the same risks as holders of MLP common units. In addition, I-Shares may trade less frequently, particularly those of issuers with smaller capitalizations. Given their potential for limited trading volume, I-Shares may display volatile or erratic price movements. In addition, I-Shares often may be subordinated in terms of liquidation rights to MLP common units.

Energy Sector Risks. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are subject to many operating risks, including: equipment failure causing outages; structural, maintenance, impairment and safety problems; transmission or transportation constraints, inoperability or inefficiencies; dependence on a specified fuel source; changes in electricity and fuel usage; availability of competitively priced alternative energy sources; changes in generation efficiency and market heat rates; lack of sufficient capital to maintain facilities; significant capital expenditures to keep older assets operating efficiently; seasonality; changes in supply and demand for energy; catastrophic and/or weather-related events such as spills, leaks, well blowouts, uncontrollable flows, ruptures, fires, explosions, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, discharges of toxic gases and similar

occurrences; storage, handling, disposal and decommissioning costs; and environmental compliance. Breakdown or failure of an energy company's assets may prevent it from performing under applicable sales agreements, which in certain situations, could result in termination of the agreement or incurring a liability for liquidated damages. As a result of the above risks and other potential hazards associated with energy companies, certain companies may become exposed to significant liabilities for which they may not have adequate insurance coverage. Any of the aforementioned risks could have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of energy companies.

Because the Fund invests at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy, concentration in the energy sector may present more risks than if the Fund were broadly diversified over numerous sectors of the economy. A downturn in the energy sector of the economy, adverse political, legislative or regulatory developments or other events could have a larger impact on the Fund than on an investment company that does not concentrate in the sector. At times, the performance of securities of companies in the sector may lag the performance of other sectors or the broader market as a whole. In addition, there are several specific risks associated with investments in the energy sector, including the following.

Regulatory Risk. The energy sector is highly regulated. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are subject to significant regulation of nearly every aspect of their operations by federal, state and local governmental agencies. Such regulation can change rapidly or over time in both scope and intensity. For example, a particular by-product or process, including hydraulic fracturing, may be declared hazardous sometimes retroactively by a regulatory agency and unexpectedly increase production costs. Various governmental authorities have the power to enforce compliance with these regulations and the permits issued under them, and violators are subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, including civil fines, injunctions or both. Stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be enacted in the future which would likely increase compliance costs and may materially adversely affect the financial performance of MLPs.

Specifically, the operations of wells, gathering systems, pipelines, refineries and other facilities are subject to stringent and complex federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations. These include, for example:

the federal Clean Air Act and comparable state laws and regulations that impose obligations related to air emissions;

the federal Clean Water Act and comparable state laws and regulations that impose obligations related to discharges of pollutants into regulated bodies of water;

the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and comparable state laws and regulations that impose requirements for the handling and disposal of waste from facilities; and

the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), also known as Superfund, and comparable state laws and regulations that regulate the cleanup of hazardous substances that may have been released at properties currently or previously owned or operated by MLPs or at locations to which they have sent waste for disposal.

Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may trigger a variety of administrative, civil and criminal enforcement measures, including the assessment of monetary penalties, the imposition of remedial requirements, and the issuance of orders enjoining future operations. Certain environmental statutes, including RCRA, CERCLA, the federal Oil Pollution Act and analogous state laws and regulations, impose strict, joint and several liability for costs required to clean up and restore sites where hazardous substances have been disposed of or otherwise released. Moreover, it is not uncommon for neighboring landowners and other third parties to file claims for personal injury and property damage allegedly caused by the release of hazardous substances or other waste products into the environment.

There is an inherent risk that MLPs may incur material environmental costs and liabilities due to the nature of their businesses and the substances they handle. For example, an accidental release from wells or gathering pipelines could subject them to substantial liabilities for environmental cleanup and restoration costs, claims made by neighboring landowners and other third parties for personal injury and property damage, and fines or penalties for related violations of environmental laws or regulations. Moreover, the possibility exists that stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could significantly increase the compliance costs of MLPs. For example, hydraulic fracturing, a technique used in the completion of oil and gas wells, has become a subject of increasing regulatory scrutiny and may be subject in the future to more stringent, and more costly to comply with, requirements. Similarly, the implementation of more stringent environmental requirements could significantly increase, and the cost of any remediation that may become necessary. MLPs may not be able to recover these costs from insurance.

Voluntary initiatives and mandatory controls have been adopted or are being discussed both in the United States and worldwide to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, a by-product of burning fossil fuels, and methane, the major constituent of natural gas, which many scientists and policymakers believe contribute to global climate change. These measures and future measures could result in increased costs to certain companies in which the Fund may invest to operate and maintain facilities and administer and manage a greenhouse gas emissions program and may reduce demand for fuels

that generate greenhouse gases and that are managed or produced by companies in which the Fund may invest.

In the wake of a Supreme Court decision holding that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has some legal authority to deal with climate change under the Clean Air Act, the EPA and the Department of Transportation jointly wrote regulations to cut gasoline use and control greenhouse gas emissions from cars and trucks. The EPA has also taken action to require certain entities to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions and certain facilities may be required to control emissions of greenhouse gases pursuant to EPA air permitting programs. These measures, and other programs addressing greenhouse gas emissions, could reduce demand for energy or raise prices, which may adversely affect the total return of certain of the Fund's investments.

Commodity Price Risk. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector may be affected by fluctuations in the prices of energy commodities, including, for example, natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil and coal, in the short- and long-term. Fluctuations in energy commodity prices would impact directly companies that own such energy commodities and could impact indirectly companies that engage in transportation, storage, processing, distribution or marketing of such energy commodities. Fluctuations in energy commodity prices can result from changes in general economic conditions or political circumstances (especially of key energy producing and consuming countries); market conditions; weather patterns; domestic production levels; volume of imports; energy conservation; domestic and foreign governmental regulation; international politics; policies of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); taxation; tariffs; and the availability and costs of local, intrastate and interstate transportation methods. The energy sector as a whole may also be impacted by the perception that the performance of energy sector companies is directly linked to commodity prices. High commodity prices may drive further energy conservation efforts, and a slowing economy may adversely impact energy consumption, which may adversely affect the performance of MLPs and other companies operating in the energy sector. Recent economic and market events have fueled concerns regarding potential liquidations of commodity futures and options positions.

Depletion Risk. MLPs and other entities engaged in the exploration, development, management or production of energy commodities face the risk that commodity reserves are depleted over time. Such companies seek to increase their reserves through expansion of their current businesses, acquisitions, further development of their existing sources of energy commodities, exploration of new sources of energy commodities or by entering into long-term contracts for additional reserves; however, there are risks associated with each of these potential strategies. If such companies fail to acquire additional reserves in a cost-effective manner and at a rate at least equal to the

rate at which their existing reserves decline, their financial performance may suffer. Additionally, failure to replenish reserves could reduce the amount and affect the tax characterization of the distributions paid by such companies.

Supply and Demand Risk. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector could be adversely affected by reductions in the supply of or demand for energy commodities. The volume of production of energy commodities and the volume of energy commodities available for transportation, storage, processing or distribution could be affected by a variety of factors, including depletion of resources; depressed commodity prices; catastrophic events; labor relations; increased environmental or other governmental regulation; equipment malfunctions and maintenance difficulties; import volumes; international politics, policies of OPEC; and increased competition from alternative energy sources. Alternatively, a decline in demand for energy commodities could result from factors such as adverse economic conditions (especially in key energy-consuming countries); increased taxation; increased environmental or other governmental regulation; increased fuel economy; increased energy conservation or use of alternative energy sources; legislation intended to promote the use of alternative energy sources; or increased commodity prices.

Acquisition Risk. MLP investments owned by the Fund may depend on their ability to make acquisitions that increase adjusted operating surplus per unit in order to increase distributions to unit holders. The ability of such MLPs to make future acquisitions is dependent on their ability to identify suitable targets, negotiate favorable purchase contracts, obtain acceptable financing and outbid competing potential acquirers. To the extent that such MLPs are unable to make future acquisitions, or such future acquisitions fail to increase the adjusted operating surplus per unit, their growth and ability to make distributions to unit holders will be limited. There are risks inherent in any acquisition, including erroneous assumptions regarding revenues, acquisition expenses, operating expenses, cost savings and synergies; assumption of liabilities; indemnification; customer losses; key employee defections; distraction from other business operations; and unanticipated difficulties in operating or integrating new product areas and geographic regions.

Weather Risks. Weather plays a role in the seasonality of some MLPs' cash flows. MLPs in the propane industry, for example, rely on the winter season to generate almost all of their earnings. In an unusually warm winter season, propane MLPs experience decreased demand for their product. Although most MLPs can reasonably predict seasonal weather demand based on normal weather patterns, extreme weather conditions, such as the hurricanes that severely damaged cities along the U.S. Gulf Coast in recent years, demonstrate that no amount of preparation can protect an MLP from the unpredictability of the weather or possible climate change. The damage done by extreme weather also may serve to increase many

MLPs' insurance premiums and could adversely affect such companies' financial condition and ability to pay distributions to shareholders.

Cyclical Industry Risk. The energy industry is cyclical and from time to time may experience a shortage of drilling rigs, equipment, supplies, or qualified personnel, or due to significant demand, such services may not be available on commercially reasonable terms. An MLP's ability to successfully and timely complete capital improvements to existing or other capital projects is contingent upon many variables. Should any such efforts be unsuccessful, an MLP could be subject to additional costs and/or the write-off of its investment in the project or improvement. The marketability of oil and gas production depends in large part on the availability, proximity and capacity of pipeline systems owned by third parties. Oil and gas properties are subject to royalty interests, liens and other burdens, encumbrances, easements or restrictions, all of which could impact the production of a particular MLP. Oil and gas MLPs operate in a highly competitive and cyclical industry, with intense price competition. A significant portion of their revenues may depend on a relatively small number of customers, including governmental entities and utilities.

Catastrophic Event Risk. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are subject to many dangers inherent in the production, exploration, management, transportation, processing and distribution of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined petroleum and petroleum products and other hydrocarbons. These dangers include leaks, fires, explosions, damage to facilities and equipment resulting from natural disasters, inadvertent damage to facilities and equipment (such as those suffered by BP's Deepwater Horizon drilling platform in 2010) and terrorist acts. Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the U.S. government has issued warnings that energy assets, specifically U.S. pipeline infrastructure, may be targeted in future terrorist attacks. These dangers give rise to risks of substantial losses as a result of loss or destruction of commodity reserves; damage to or destruction of property, facilities and equipment; pollution and environmental damage; and personal injury or loss of life. Any occurrence of such catastrophic events could bring about a limitation, suspension or discontinuation of the operations of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector may not be fully insured against all risks inherent in their business operations and therefore accidents and catastrophic events could adversely affect such companies' financial condition and ability to pay distributions to shareholders.

Industry Specific Risks. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are also subject to risks that are specific to the industry they serve.

Pipelines. Pipeline companies are subject to the demand for natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil or refined products in the markets

they serve, changes in the availability of products for gathering, transportation, processing or sale due to natural declines in reserves and production in the supply areas serviced by the companies' facilities, sharp decreases in crude oil or natural gas prices that cause producers to curtail production or reduce capital spending for exploration activities, and environmental regulation. Demand for gasoline, which accounts for a substantial portion of refined product transportation, depends on price, prevailing economic conditions in the markets served, and demographic and seasonal factors. Companies that own interstate pipelines that transport natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil or refined petroleum products are subject to regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) with respect to the tariff rates they may charge for transportation services. An adverse determination by FERC with respect to the tariff rates of such a company could have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and its ability to pay cash distributions or dividends. In addition, FERC has a tax allowance policy, which permits such companies to include in their cost of service an income tax allowance to the extent that their owners have an actual or potential tax liability on the income generated by them. If FERC's income tax allowance policy were to change in the future to disallow a material portion of the income tax allowance taken by such interstate pipeline companies, it would adversely impact the maximum tariff rates that such companies are permitted to charge for their transportation services, which would in turn adversely affect such companies' financial condition and ability to pay distributions to shareholders.

Gathering and processing. Gathering and processing companies are subject to natural declines in the production of oil and natural gas fields, which utilize their gathering and processing facilities as a way to market their production, prolonged declines in the price of natural gas or crude oil, which curtails drilling activity and therefore production, and declines in the prices of natural gas liquids and refined petroleum products, which cause lower processing margins. In addition, some gathering and processing contracts subject the gathering or processing company to direct commodities price risk.

Midstream. Midstream MLPs and other entities that provide crude oil, refined product and natural gas services are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve which may be impacted by a wide range of factors including fluctuating commodity prices, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events, and economic conditions, among others.

Exploration and production. Exploration, development and production companies are particularly vulnerable to declines in the

demand for and prices of crude oil and natural gas. Reductions in prices for crude oil and natural gas can cause a given reservoir to become uneconomic for continued production earlier than it would if prices were higher, resulting in the plugging and abandonment of, and cessation of production from, that reservoir. In addition, lower commodity prices not only reduce revenues but also can result in substantial downward adjustments in reserve estimates. The accuracy of any reserve estimate is a function of the quality of available data, the accuracy of assumptions regarding future commodity prices and future exploration and development costs and engineering and geological interpretations and judgments. Different reserve engineers may make different estimates of reserve quantities and related revenue based on the same data. Actual oil and gas prices, development expenditures and operating expenses will vary from those assumed in reserve estimates, and these variances may be significant. Any significant variance from the assumptions used could result in the actual quantity of reserves and future net cash flow being materially different from those estimated in reserve reports. In addition, results of drilling, testing and production and changes in prices after the date of reserve estimates may result in downward revisions to such estimates. Substantial downward adjustments in reserve estimates could have a material adverse effect on a given exploration and production company's financial position and results of operations. In addition, due to natural declines in reserves and production, exploration and production companies must economically find or acquire and develop additional reserves in order to maintain and grow their revenues and distributions.

Propane. Propane MLPs are subject to earnings variability based upon weather conditions in the markets they serve, fluctuating commodity prices, increased use of alternative fuels, increased governmental or environmental regulation, and accidents or catastrophic events, among others.

Coal. MLP entities and other entities with coal assets are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve, which may be impacted by a wide range of factors including fluctuating commodity prices, the level of their customers' coal stockpiles, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, mining accidents or catastrophic events, health claims and economic conditions, among others. It has become increasingly difficult to obtain and maintain the permits necessary to mine coal. Further, such permits, if obtained, have increasingly contained more stringent, and more difficult and costly to comply with, provisions relating to environmental protection.

Marine shipping. Marine shipping (or tanker companies) are exposed to many of the same risks as other energy companies. In addition, the highly cyclical nature of the tanker industry may lead to

volatile changes in charter rates and vessel values, which may adversely affect the earnings of tanker companies in our portfolio. Fluctuations in charter rates and vessel values result from changes in the supply and demand for tanker capacity and changes in the supply and demand for oil and oil products. Historically, the tanker markets have been volatile because many conditions and factors can affect the supply and demand for tanker capacity. Changes in demand for transportation of oil over longer distances and supply of tankers to carry that oil may materially affect revenues, profitability and cash flows of tanker companies. The successful operation of vessels in the charter market depends upon, among other things, obtaining profitable spot charters and minimizing time spent waiting for charters and traveling unladen to pick up cargo. The value of tanker vessels may fluctuate and could adversely affect the value of tanker company securities in our portfolio. Declining tanker values could affect the ability of tanker companies to raise cash by limiting their ability to refinance their vessels, thereby adversely impacting tanker company liquidity. Tanker company vessels are at risk of damage or loss because of events such as mechanical failure, collision, human error, war, terrorism, piracy, cargo loss and bad weather. In addition, changing economic, regulatory and political conditions in some countries, including political and military conflicts, have from time to time resulted in attacks on vessels, mining of waterways, piracy, terrorism, labor strikes, boycotts and government requisitioning of vessels. These sorts of events could interfere with shipping lanes and result in market disruptions and a significant loss of tanker company earnings.

Delay in Use of Proceeds Risk. Although the Fund currently intends to invest the proceeds from any sale of the securities offered hereby as soon as practicable following the completion of any offering, such investments may be delayed if suitable investments are unavailable at the time. The trading market and volumes for securities of MLPs and energy companies may at times be less liquid than the market for other securities. Prior to the time the proceeds of any offering under this Prospectus are invested, such proceeds may be invested in short-term money market instruments and U.S. government securities, pending investment in securities of energy MLPs. Income received by the Fund from these securities would subject the Fund to corporate tax before any distributions to security holders. As a result, the return and yield on the Common Stock for the period immediately following any offering pursuant to this Prospectus and related Prospectus Supplement may be lower than when the Fund is fully invested in accordance with its investment objective and policies. See *Use of Proceeds*.

Interest Rate Risk. Rising interest rates could increase the costs of capital thereby increasing operating costs and reducing the ability of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector to carry out acquisitions or expansions in a cost-effective manner. As a result, rising interest rates could negatively affect the financial performance

of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector. Rising interest rates may also impact the price of the securities of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector as the yields on alternative investments increase. During periods of declining interest rates, the market price of fixed income securities generally rises. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the market price of such securities generally declines.

Inflation/Deflation Risk. Inflation risk is the risk that the value of certain assets or income from the Fund's investments will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Stock and distributions on the Common Stock can decline. In addition, during any periods of rising inflation, the dividend rates or borrowing costs associated with the Fund's use of leverage would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to Common Stockholders. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time the opposite of inflation. Deflation may have an adverse affect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer defaults more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Liquidity Risk. Although the equity securities of the MLPs in which the Fund invests generally trade on major stock exchanges, certain securities may trade less frequently, particularly those of MLPs and other issuers with smaller capitalizations. Securities with limited trading volumes may display volatile or erratic price movements. Also, the Fund may be one of the largest investors in certain sub-sectors of the energy or natural resource sectors. Thus, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell significant amounts of such securities without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices. Larger purchases or sales of these securities by the Fund in a short period of time may cause abnormal movements in the market price of these securities. As a result, these securities may be difficult to dispose of at a fair price at the times when ClearBridge believe it is desirable to do so.

Natural Resources Sector Risks. The natural resources sector includes companies principally engaged in owning or developing non-energy natural resources (including timber and minerals) and industrial materials, or supplying goods or services to such companies. The Fund's investments in MLPs and other entities operating in the natural resources sector will be subject to the risk that prices of these securities may fluctuate widely in response to the level and volatility of commodity prices; exchange rates; import controls; domestic and global competition; environmental regulation and liability for environmental damage; mandated expenditures for safety or pollution control; the success of exploration projects; depletion of resources; tax policies; and other governmental regulation. Investments in the natural resources sector can be significantly affected by changes in the supply of or demand for various natural resources. The value of

investments in the natural resources sector may be adversely affected by a change in inflation.

Small Capitalization Risk. The Fund may invest in securities of MLPs and other issuers that have comparatively smaller capitalizations relative to issuers whose securities are included in major benchmark indexes, which presents unique investment risks. These companies often have limited product lines, markets, distribution channels or financial resources, and the management of such companies may be dependent upon one or a few key people. The market movements of equity securities issued by MLPs with smaller capitalizations may be more abrupt or erratic than the market movements of equity securities of larger, more established companies or the stock market in general. Historically, smaller capitalization companies have sometimes gone through extended periods when they did not perform as well as larger companies. In addition, equity securities of smaller capitalization companies generally are less liquid than those of larger companies. This means that the Fund could have greater difficulty selling such securities at the time and price that the Fund would like.

Competition Risk. A number of alternatives to us as vehicles for investment in a portfolio of energy MLPs and their affiliates currently exist, including other publicly traded investment companies, structured notes and private funds. In addition, recent tax law changes have increased the ability of regulated investment companies or other institutions to invest in MLPs. These competitive conditions may adversely impact our ability to meet our investment objective, which in turn could adversely impact our ability to make distributions.

Restricted Securities Risk. The Fund may invest up to 30% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities. The term restricted securities refers to securities that are unregistered, held by control persons of the issuer or are subject to contractual restrictions on their resale. Restricted securities are often purchased at a discount from the market price of unrestricted securities of the same issuer reflecting the fact that such securities may not be readily marketable without some time delay. Such securities are often more difficult to value and the sale of such securities often requires more time and results in higher brokerage charges or dealer discounts and other selling expenses than does the sale of liquid securities trading on national securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter markets.

Contractual restrictions on the resale of securities result from negotiations between the issuer and purchaser of such securities and therefore vary substantially in length and scope. To dispose of a restricted security that the Fund has a contractual right to sell, the Fund may first be required to cause the security to be registered. A considerable period may elapse between a decision to sell the securities and the time when the Fund would be permitted to sell, during which time the Fund would bear market risks.

Cash Flow Risk. The Fund expects that a substantial portion of the cash flow it receives will be derived from its investments in equity

securities of MLPs. The amount and tax characterization of cash available for distribution by an MLP depends upon the amount of cash generated by such entity's operations. Cash available for distribution by MLPs will vary widely from quarter to quarter and is affected by various factors affecting the entity's operations. In addition to the risks described herein, operating costs, capital expenditures, acquisition costs, construction costs, exploration costs and borrowing costs may reduce the amount of cash that an MLP has available for distribution in a given period.

Capital Market Risk. Global financial markets and economic conditions have been, and continue to be, volatile due to a variety of factors, including significant write-offs in the financial services sector. As a result, the cost of raising capital in the debt and equity capital markets has increased substantially while the ability to raise capital from those markets has diminished significantly. In particular, as a result of concerns about the general stability of financial markets and specifically the solvency of lending counterparties, the cost of raising capital from the credit markets generally has increased as many lenders and institutional investors have increased interest rates, enacted tighter lending standards, refused to refinance debt on existing terms or at all and reduced, or in some cases ceased to provide, funding to borrowers. In addition, lending counterparties under existing revolving credit facilities and other debt instruments may be unwilling or unable to meet their funding obligations. Due to these factors, MLPs may be unable to obtain new debt or equity financing on acceptable terms or at all. If funding is not available when needed, or is available only on unfavorable terms, MLPs may not be able to meet their obligations as they come due. Moreover, without adequate funding, MLPs may be unable to execute their growth strategies, complete future acquisitions, take advantage of other business opportunities or respond to competitive pressures, any of which could have a material adverse effect on their revenues and results of operations.

Valuation Risk. Market prices generally are unavailable for some of the Fund's investments, including MLP subordinated units, direct ownership of general partner or managing member interests and restricted or unregistered securities of certain MLPs and private companies. The values of such securities are determined by fair valuations determined by the Board of Directors or its designee in accordance with procedures governing the valuation of portfolio securities adopted by the Board of Directors. Proper valuation of such securities may require more reliance on the judgment of ClearBridge than for valuation of securities for which an active trading market exists. As a limited partner in the MLPs, the Fund includes its allocable share of the MLP's taxable income in computing its own taxable income. Deferred income taxes in the financial statements of the Fund reflect (i) taxes on unrealized gains/losses, which are attributable to the temporary difference between fair market value and the cost basis of the Fund's assets for financial reporting purposes,

(ii) the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amount and the cost basis of such assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes and (iii) the net tax benefit of accumulated net operating losses. To the extent the Fund has a deferred tax asset, consideration is given as to whether or not a valuation allowance is required. The need to establish a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets is assessed periodically by the Fund based on the criterion established by the Financial Accounting Standards Board Codification Topic 740, Income Taxes (formerly Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 109) (ASC Topic 740) that it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. In the assessment for a valuation allowance, consideration is given to all positive and negative evidence related to the realization of the deferred tax asset. This assessment considers, among other matters, the nature, frequency and severity of current and cumulative losses, forecasts of future profitability (which are highly dependent on future MLP operating results), the duration of statutory carryforward periods and the associated risk that operating loss carryforwards may expire unused.

The Fund may rely to some extent on information provided by the MLPs, which may not necessarily be timely, to estimate taxable income allocable to the MLP units held in the portfolio and to estimate the associated deferred tax asset or liability. Such estimates are made in good faith. From time to time, as new information becomes available, the Fund will modify its estimates or assumptions regarding the deferred tax asset or liability.

Deferred tax assets may constitute a relatively high percentage of the Fund's net asset value. Any valuation allowance required against such deferred tax assets or future adjustments to a valuation allowance may reduce the Fund's deferred tax assets and could have a material impact on the Fund's net asset value and results of operations in the period the valuation allowance is recorded or adjusted.

Royalty Trust Risk. Royalty trusts are exposed to many of the same risks as other MLPs. In addition, the value of the equity securities of the royalty trusts in which the Fund invests may fluctuate in accordance with changes in the financial condition of those royalty trusts, the condition of equity markets generally, commodity prices, and other factors. Distributions on royalty trusts in which the Fund may invest will depend upon the declaration of distributions from the constituent royalty trusts, but there can be no assurance that those royalty trusts will pay distributions on their securities. Typically royalty trusts own the rights to royalties on the production and sales of a natural resource, including oil, gas, minerals and timber. As these deplete, production and cash flows steadily decline, which may decrease distributions. The declaration of such distributions generally depends upon various factors, including the operating performance and financial condition of the royalty trust and general economic conditions.

In many circumstances, the royalty trusts in which the Fund may invest may have limited operating histories. The value of royalty trust securities in which the Fund invests are influenced by factors that are not within the Fund's control, including the financial performance of the respective issuers, interest rates, exchange rates and commodity prices (which will vary and are determined by supply and demand factors including weather and general economic and political conditions), the hedging policies employed by such issuers, issues relating to the regulation of the energy industry and operational risks relating to the energy industry.

Market Discount from Net Asset Value Risk. Our Common Stock has traded both at a premium and at a discount to our net asset value. The last reported sale price, as of October 28, 2013 was \$22.53 per share. Our net asset value per share and percentage discount to net asset value per share of our Common Stock as of October 28, 2013 were \$22.83 and 1.31%, respectively. There is no assurance that this premium will continue after the date of this Prospectus or that our Common Stock will not again trade at a discount. Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. This characteristic is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value could decrease as a result of our investment activities and may be greater for investors expecting to sell their shares in a relatively short period following completion of any offering under this Prospectus. Although the value of our net assets is generally considered by market participants in determining whether to purchase or sell shares, whether investors will realize gains or losses upon the sale of our Common Stock depends upon whether the market price of our Common Stock at the time of sale is above or below the investor's purchase price for our Common Stock. Because the market price of our Common Stock is affected by factors such as net asset value, dividend or distribution levels (which are dependent, in part, on expenses), supply of and demand for our Common Stock, stability of distributions, trading volume of our Common Stock, general market and economic conditions, and other factors beyond our control, the Fund cannot predict whether the Common Stock will trade at, below or above net asset value or at, below or above the offering price. The Fund's Common Stock is designed primarily for long term investors and you should not view the Fund as a vehicle for trading purposes.

Dilution Risk. The voting power of current Common Stockholders will be diluted to the extent that current Common Stockholders do not purchase Common Stock in any future offerings of Common Stock or do not purchase sufficient Common Stock to maintain their percentage interest. If the Fund is unable to invest the proceeds of such offerings as intended, the Fund's per share distributions may decrease and the Fund may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned. See Description of Shares.

Below Investment Grade (High Yield or Junk Bond) Securities Risk. The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in fixed income securities of below investment grade quality. Fixed income securities rated below investment grade are commonly referred to as high yield securities or junk bonds and are regarded as having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligations and involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions. Fixed income securities rated as low as C by Moody's, CCC or lower by S&P or CC or lower by Fitch are considered to have extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing, to have a current identifiable vulnerability to default, to be unlikely to have the capacity to pay interest and repay principal when due in the event of adverse business, financial or economic conditions and/or to be in default or not current in the payment of interest or principal. Ratings may not accurately reflect the actual credit risk associated with a corporate security.

Fixed income securities rated below investment grade generally offer a higher current yield than that available from higher grade issues, but typically involve greater risk. These securities are especially sensitive to adverse changes in general economic conditions, to changes in the financial condition of their issuers and to price fluctuation in response to changes in interest rates. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates, issuers of below investment grade instruments may experience financial stress that could adversely affect their ability to make payments of principal and interest and increase the possibility of default. The secondary market for high yield securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities, a factor which may have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to dispose of a particular security. There are fewer dealers in the market for high yield securities than for investment grade obligations. The prices quoted by different dealers may vary significantly, and the spread between the bid and asked price is generally much larger for high yield securities than for higher quality instruments. Under adverse market or economic conditions, the secondary market for high yield securities could contract further, independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer, and these securities may become illiquid. In addition, adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may also decrease the values and liquidity of below investment grade securities, especially in a market characterized by a low volume of trading.

Default, or the market's perception that an issuer is likely to default, could reduce the value and liquidity of securities held by the Fund, thereby reducing the value of your investment in the Fund's securities. In addition, default may cause the Fund to incur expenses in seeking recovery of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio company, the Fund may lose its entire investment or may be required

to accept cash or securities with a value less than its original investment. Among the risks inherent in investments in a troubled entity is the fact that it frequently may be difficult to obtain information as to the true financial condition of such issuer. ClearBridge's judgment about the credit quality of an issuer and the relative value of its securities may prove to be wrong. Investments in below investment grade securities may present special tax issues for the Fund to the extent that the issuers of these securities default on their obligations pertaining thereto, and the federal income tax consequences to the Fund as a holder of such distressed securities may not be clear.

Foreign Securities and Emerging Markets Risk. A fund that invests in foreign (non-U.S.) securities may experience more rapid and extreme changes in value than a fund that invests exclusively in securities of U.S. companies. The securities markets of many foreign countries are relatively small, with a limited number of companies representing a small number of industries. Investments in foreign securities (including those denominated in U.S. dollars) are subject to economic and political developments in the countries and regions where the issuers operate or are domiciled, or where the securities are traded, such as changes in economic or monetary policies. Values may also be affected by restrictions on receiving the investment proceeds from a foreign country. Less information may be publicly available about foreign companies than about U.S. companies. Foreign companies are generally not subject to the same accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards as are U.S. companies. In addition, the Fund's investments in foreign securities may be subject to the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets, imposition of currency exchange controls or restrictions on the repatriation of foreign currency, confiscatory taxation, political or financial instability and adverse diplomatic developments. In addition, there may be difficulty in obtaining or enforcing a court judgment abroad. Dividends or interest on, or proceeds from the sale of, foreign securities may be subject to non-U.S. withholding taxes, and special U.S. tax considerations may apply.

The risks of foreign investment are greater for investments in emerging markets. The Fund considers a country to be an emerging market country if, at the time of investment, it is represented in the J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global or categorized by the World Bank in its annual categorization as middle or low-income. Emerging market countries typically have economic and political systems that are less fully developed, and that can be expected to be less stable, than those of more advanced countries. Low trading volumes may result in a lack of liquidity and in price volatility. Emerging market countries may have policies that restrict investment by foreigners, that require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons, or that prevent foreign investors from withdrawing their money at will. An investment in emerging market securities should be considered speculative.

Currency Risk. If the Fund invests directly in securities that trade in, and receive revenues in, foreign (non-U.S.) currencies, it will be subject to the risk that those currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar. Currency rates in foreign countries may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time for a number of reasons, including changes in interest rates, intervention (or the failure to intervene) by U.S. or foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities such as the International Monetary Fund, or the imposition of currency controls or other political developments in the United States or abroad. As a result, the Fund's investments in foreign currency denominated securities may reduce the returns of the Fund.

Leverage Risk. As of May 31, 2013, we had outstanding senior secured notes and a revolving credit facility with a financial institution in place under which we had Borrowings representing approximately 23.0% of our Managed Assets. Under current market conditions, the Fund intends to continue to utilize leverage principally through Borrowings in an amount up to 20-25% of its Managed Assets. In the future the Fund may elect to utilize leverage in an amount up to 33 ¹/₃% of the Fund's total assets through Borrowings and 50% of the Fund's total assets through the issuance of Preferred Stock. Leverage may result in greater volatility of the net asset value and market price of the Common Stock because changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio investments, including investments purchased with the proceeds from Borrowings or the issuance of Preferred Stock, if any, are borne entirely by Common Stockholders. Common Stock income may fall if the interest rate on Borrowings or the dividend rate on Preferred Stock rises, and may fluctuate as the interest rate on Borrowings or the dividend rate on Preferred Stock varies. The Fund's use of leverage will result in increased operating costs. Thus, to the extent that the then-current cost of any leverage, together with other related expenses, approaches the net return on the Fund's investment portfolio, the benefit of leverage to Common Stockholders will be reduced, and if the then-current cost of any leverage together with related expenses were to exceed the net return on the Fund's portfolio, the Fund's leveraged capital structure would result in a lower rate of return to Common Stockholders than if the Fund were not so leveraged. There can be no assurance that the Fund's leveraging strategy will be successful.

During periods when the Fund is using leverage through Borrowings or the issuance of Preferred Stock, the fees paid to LMPFA and ClearBridge for advisory services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund's Managed Assets, which includes the amount of Borrowings and any assets attributable to Preferred Stock. This means that LMPFA and ClearBridge have a financial incentive to increase the Fund's use of leverage.

Any decline in the net asset value of the Fund will be borne entirely by Common Stockholders. Therefore, if the market value of the

Fund's portfolio declines, the Fund's use of leverage will result in a greater decrease in net asset value to Common Stockholders than if the Fund were not leveraged. Such greater net asset value decrease will also tend to cause a greater decline in the market price for the Common Stock.

Certain types of Borrowings, including the Fund's current Borrowings, result in the Fund being subject to covenants relating to asset coverage, credit ratings or portfolio composition or otherwise. In addition, the Fund may be subject to certain restrictions imposed by guidelines of one or more rating agencies which may issue ratings for commercial paper or notes issued by the Fund. Such restrictions may be more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. In addition, the terms of the Fund's current Borrowings also require that the Fund pledge its assets as collateral.

Derivatives Risk. The Fund may utilize a variety of derivative instruments such as interest rate swaps, options contracts, futures contracts, forward contracts, options on futures contracts and indexed securities. Generally derivatives are financial contracts whose value depends on, or is derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index, and may relate to individual debt or equity instruments, interest rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, commodities, related indexes and other assets. Derivatives are subject to a number of risks described elsewhere in this Prospectus, such as liquidity risk, interest rate risk, credit risk and management risk. Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will not fulfill its contractual obligation. Changes in the credit quality of the companies that serve as the Fund's counterparties with respect to its derivative transactions will affect the value of those instruments. By using derivatives that expose the Fund to counterparties, the Fund assumes the risk that its counterparties could experience financial hardships that could call into question their continued ability to perform their obligations. In addition, in the event of the insolvency of a counterparty to a derivative transaction, the derivative transaction would typically be terminated at its fair market value. If the Fund is owed this fair market value in the termination of the derivative transaction and its claim is unsecured, the Fund will be treated as a general creditor of such counterparty, and will not have any claim with respect to the underlying security. As a result, concentrations of such derivatives in any one counterparty would subject the Fund to an additional degree of risk with respect to defaults by such counterparty. Derivatives also involve the risk of mispricing or improper valuation and the risk that changes in the value of a derivative may not correlate perfectly with an underlying asset, interest rate or index. Suitable derivative transactions may not be available in all circumstances and there can be no assurance that the Fund will engage in these transactions to reduce exposure to other risks when that would be beneficial. If the Fund invests in a derivative instrument, it could lose more than the principal amount invested. Changes to the derivatives markets as a

result of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and other government regulation may have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to make use of derivative transactions.

Derivative instruments can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses and may have a potentially large impact on Fund performance. See "The Fund's Investments," "Additional Investment Activities," "Derivatives," in this Prospectus and "Investment Policies and Techniques," "Portfolio Composition," "Derivatives," in the SAI.

Short Sales Risk. To the extent the Fund makes use of short sales for investment and/or risk management purposes, the Fund may be subject to risks associated with selling short. Short sales are transactions in which the Fund sells securities or other instruments that the Fund does not own. Short sales expose the Fund to the risk that it will be required to cover its short position at a time when the securities have appreciated in value, thus resulting in a loss to the Fund. The Fund may engage in short sales where it does not own or have the right to acquire the security sold short at no additional cost. The Fund's loss on a short sale theoretically could be unlimited in a case where the Fund is unable, for whatever reason, to close out its short position. In addition, the Fund's short selling strategies may limit its ability to benefit from increases in the markets. If the Fund engages in short sales, it will segregate liquid assets, enter into offsetting transactions or own positions covering its obligations; however, such segregation and cover requirements will not limit or offset losses on related positions. Short selling also involves a form of financial leverage that may exaggerate any losses realized by the Fund. Also, there is the risk that the counterparty to a short sale may fail to honor its contractual terms, causing a loss to the Fund. The Fund will incur transaction costs with any short sales, which will be borne by shareholders. Finally, regulations imposed by the SEC or other regulatory bodies relating to short selling may restrict the Fund's ability to engage in short selling.

Legal and Regulatory Risk. Legal, tax and regulatory changes could occur and may adversely affect the Fund and its ability to pursue its investment strategies and/or increase the costs of implementing such strategies. New (or revised) laws or regulations may be imposed by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), the SEC, the U.S. Federal Reserve or other banking regulators, other governmental regulatory authorities or self-regulatory organizations that supervise the financial markets that could adversely affect the Fund. In particular, these agencies are empowered to promulgate a variety of new rules pursuant to recently enacted financial reform legislation in the United States. The Fund also may be adversely affected by changes in the enforcement or interpretation of existing statutes and rules by these governmental regulatory authorities or self-regulatory organizations.

In addition, the securities and futures markets are subject to comprehensive statutes, regulations and margin requirements. The

CFTC, the SEC, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, other regulators and self-regulatory organizations and exchanges are authorized under these statutes, regulations and otherwise to take extraordinary actions in the event of market emergencies. The Fund and the Investment Manager have historically been eligible for exemptions from certain regulations. However, there is no assurance that the Fund and LMPFA will continue to be eligible for such exemptions.

The U.S. Government recently enacted legislation that provides for new regulation of the derivatives market, including clearing, margin, reporting, recordkeeping, and registration requirements. Although the CFTC has released final rules relating to clearing, reporting, recordkeeping and registration requirements under the legislation, many of the provisions are subject to further final rule making, and thus its ultimate impact remains unclear. New regulations could, among other things, restrict the Fund's ability to engage in derivatives transactions (for example, by making certain types of derivatives transactions no longer available to the Fund) and/or increase the costs of such derivatives transactions (for example, by increasing margin or capital requirements), and the Fund may be unable to execute its investment strategies as a result. It is unclear how the regulatory changes will affect counterparty risk.

The CFTC and certain futures exchanges have established limits, referred to as position limits, on the maximum net long or net short positions which any person may hold or control in particular options and futures contracts; those position limits may also apply to certain other derivatives positions the Fund may wish to take. All positions owned or controlled by the same person or entity, even if in different accounts, may be aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicable position limits have been exceeded. Thus, even if the Fund does not intend to exceed applicable position limits, it is possible that different clients managed by the Investment Manager and its affiliates may be aggregated for this purpose. Therefore it is possible that the trading decisions of the Investment Manager may have to be modified and that positions held by the Fund may have to be liquidated in order to avoid exceeding such limits. The modification of investment decisions or the elimination of open positions, if it occurs, may adversely affect the performance of the Fund.

The SEC has in the past adopted interim rules requiring reporting of all short positions above a certain de minimis threshold and may adopt rules requiring monthly public disclosure in the future. In addition, other non-U.S. jurisdictions where the Fund may trade have adopted reporting requirements. If the Fund's short positions or its strategy become generally known, it could have a significant effect on ClearBridge's ability to implement its investment strategy. In particular, it would make it more likely that other investors could cause a short squeeze in the securities held short by the Fund forcing the Fund to cover its positions at a loss. Such reporting

requirements also may limit the Investment Manager's ability to access management and other personnel at certain companies where ClearBridge seeks to take a short position. In addition, if other investors engage in copycat behavior by taking positions in the same issuers as the Fund, the cost of borrowing securities to sell short could increase drastically and the availability of such securities to the Fund could decrease drastically. Such events could make the Fund unable to execute its investment strategy. In addition, the SEC and other regulatory and self-regulatory authorities have implemented various rules and may adopt additional rules in the future that may impact those engaging in short selling activity. If additional rules were adopted regarding short sales, they could restrict the Fund's ability to engage in short sales in certain circumstances, and the Fund may be unable to execute its investment strategy as a result.

The SEC and regulatory authorities in other jurisdictions may adopt (and in certain cases, have adopted) bans on short sales of certain securities in response to market events. Bans on short selling may make it impossible for the Fund to execute certain investment strategies and may have a material adverse effect on the Fund's ability to generate returns.

Counterparty Risk. The Fund will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties to the derivative contracts (whether a clearing corporation in the case of exchange-traded instruments or another third party in the case of over-the-counter instruments) and other instruments entered into directly by the Fund or held by special purpose or structured vehicles in which the Fund invests. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract due to financial difficulties, the Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative contract in a dissolution, assignment for the benefit of creditors, liquidation, winding-up, bankruptcy, or other analogous proceeding. In addition, in the event of the insolvency of a counterparty to a derivative transaction, the derivative transaction would typically be terminated at its fair market value. If the Fund is owed this fair market value in the termination of the derivative transaction and its claim is unsecured, the Fund will be treated as a general creditor of such counterparty, and will not have any claim with respect to the underlying security. The Fund may obtain only a limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances.

Counterparty risk with respect to certain exchange-traded and over-the-counter derivatives may be further complicated by recently enacted U.S. financial reform legislation. See *Legal and Regulatory Risk* for more information.

Privately Held Company Risk. Privately held companies are not subject to SEC reporting requirements, are not required to maintain their accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and are not required to maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting. As a result, ClearBridge

may not have timely or accurate information about the business, financial condition and results of operations of the privately held companies in which the Fund invests.

Debt Securities Risks. Debt securities in which the Fund invests are subject to many of the risks described elsewhere in this section. In addition, they are subject to credit risk, interest rate risk, and, depending on their quality, other special risks. An issuer of a debt security may be unable to make interest payments and repay principal. The Fund could lose money if the issuer of a debt obligation is, or is perceived to be, unable or unwilling to make timely principal and/or interest payments, or to otherwise honor its obligations. The downgrade of a security by rating agencies may further decrease its value. Certain debt instruments, particularly below investment grade securities, may contain call or redemption provisions which would allow the issuer thereof to prepay principal prior to the debt instrument's stated maturity. This is known as prepayment risk. Prepayment risk is greater during a falling interest rate environment as issuers can reduce their cost of capital by refinancing higher yielding debt instruments with lower yielding debt instruments. An issuer may also elect to refinance its debt instruments with lower yielding debt instruments if the credit standing of the issuer improves. To the extent debt securities in its portfolio are called or redeemed, the Fund may be forced to reinvest in lower yielding securities. Debt securities have reinvestment risk, which is the risk that income from the Fund's portfolio will decline if and when the Fund invests the proceeds from matured, traded or called fixed income instruments at market interest rates that are below the portfolio's current earnings rate. A decline in income could affect the Fund's Common Stock price or its overall return.

Redenomination Risk. Continuing uncertainty as to the status of the euro and the European Monetary Union (the EMU) has created significant volatility in currency and financial markets generally. Any partial or complete dissolution of the EMU could have significant adverse effects on currency and financial markets, and on the values of the Fund's portfolio investments. If one or more EMU countries were to stop using the euro as its primary currency, the Fund's investments in such countries may be redenominated into a different or newly adopted currency. As a result, the value of those investments could decline significantly and unpredictably. In addition, securities or other investments that are redenominated may be subject to foreign currency risk, liquidity risk and valuation risk to a greater extent than similar investments currently denominated in euros. To the extent a currency used for redenomination purposes is not specified in respect of certain EMU-related investments, or should the euro cease to be used entirely, the currency in which such investments are denominated may be unclear, making such investments particularly difficult to value or dispose of. The Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek judicial or other clarification of the denomination or value of such securities.

Management Risk and Reliance on Key Personnel. The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed investment portfolio. ClearBridge and each individual portfolio manager may not be successful in selecting the best performing securities or investment techniques, and the Fund's performance may lag behind that of similar funds. The Fund depends upon the diligence and skill of ClearBridge's portfolio managers, who evaluate, negotiate, structure and monitor its investments. These individuals do not have long-term employment contracts with ClearBridge, although they do have equity interests and other financial incentives to remain with ClearBridge. The Fund also depends on the senior management of LMPFA, and the departure of any of the senior management of LMPFA could have a material adverse effect on the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk. LMPFA, ClearBridge and the portfolio managers have interests which may conflict with the interests of the Fund. In particular, LMPFA also manages, and ClearBridge serves as subadvisor to, other closed-end investment companies listed on the NYSE that have investment objectives and investment strategies that are substantially similar to the Fund. Further, LMPFA and ClearBridge may at some time in the future manage and/or advise other investment funds or accounts with the same investment objective and strategies as the Fund. As a result, LMPFA, ClearBridge and the Fund's portfolio managers may devote unequal time and attention to the management of the Fund and those other funds and accounts, and may not be able to formulate as complete a strategy or identify equally attractive investment opportunities as might be the case if they were to devote substantially more attention to the management of the Fund. LMPFA, ClearBridge and the Fund's portfolio managers may identify a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for multiple funds and accounts, and the opportunity may be allocated among these several funds and accounts, which may limit the Fund's ability to take full advantage of the investment opportunity. Additionally, transaction orders may be aggregated for multiple accounts for purpose of execution, which may cause the price or brokerage costs to be less favorable to the Fund than if similar transactions were not being executed concurrently for other accounts. At times, a portfolio manager may determine that an investment opportunity may be appropriate for only some of the funds and accounts for which he or she exercises investment responsibility, or may decide that certain of the funds and accounts should take differing positions with respect to a particular security. In these cases, the portfolio manager may place separate transactions for one or more funds or accounts which may affect the market price of the security or the execution of the transaction, or both, to the detriment or benefit of one or more other funds and accounts. For example, a portfolio manager may determine that it would be in the interest of another account to sell a security that the Fund holds, potentially resulting in a decrease in the market value of the security held by the Fund.

The portfolio managers may also engage in cross trades between funds and accounts, may select brokers or dealers to execute securities transactions based in part on brokerage and research services provided to LMPFA or ClearBridge which may not benefit all funds and accounts equally and may receive different amounts of financial or other benefits for managing different funds and accounts. Finally, LMPFA or its affiliates may provide more services to some types of funds and accounts than others.

There is no guarantee that the policies and procedures adopted by LMPFA, ClearBridge and the Fund will be able to identify or mitigate the conflicts of interest that arise between the Fund and any other investment funds or accounts that LMPFA and/or ClearBridge may manage or advise from time to time. For further information on potential conflicts of interest, see *Portfolio Managers' Potential Conflicts of Interest* in the SAI.

Market Disruption and Geopolitical Risk. The aftermath of the war in Iraq, instability in Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Middle East and terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world may result in market volatility, may have long-term effects on the U.S. and worldwide financial markets and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and worldwide. The Fund does not know how long the securities markets may be affected by these events and cannot predict the effects of these events or similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets. The wars and occupation, terrorism and related geopolitical risks have led, and may in the future lead, to increased short-term market volatility and may have adverse long-term effects on U.S. and world economies and markets generally. Those events also could have an acute effect on individual issuers or related groups of issuers. These risks also could adversely affect individual issuers and securities markets, interest rates, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation, deflation and other factors relating to the Fund's investments and the market value and net asset value of the Common Stock.

Portfolio Contents. The Fund's annual portfolio turnover rate may vary greatly from year to year. A higher portfolio turnover rate results in correspondingly greater brokerage commissions and other transactional expenses that are borne by the Fund. High portfolio turnover may result in the Fund's recognition of gains that will be taxable to the Fund. A high portfolio turnover may also increase the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, resulting in a greater portion of the Fund's distributions being treated as a dividend to the Common Stockholders.

Government Intervention in Financial Markets Risk. The recent instability in the financial markets has led the U.S. government and foreign governments to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility, and in some cases a lack of liquidity. United States federal and state

governments and foreign governments, their regulatory agencies or self regulatory organizations may take additional actions that affect the regulation of the securities in which the Fund invests, or the issuers of such securities, in ways that are unforeseeable. Issuers of corporate fixed income securities might seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could limit or preclude the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. ClearBridge monitors developments and seeks to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful in doing so.

Temporary Defensive Strategies Risk. When ClearBridge anticipates unusual market or other conditions, the Fund may temporarily depart from its primary investment strategy as a defensive measure and invest all or a portion of its assets in cash, obligations of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities; other investment grade debt securities; investment grade commercial paper; certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances; or any other fixed income securities that ClearBridge considers consistent with this strategy. To the extent that the Fund invests defensively, it may not achieve its investment objective.

Non-Diversification Risk. The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the 1940 Act. As a result, it can invest a greater portion of its assets in obligations of a single issuer than a "diversified" fund. The Fund may therefore be more susceptible than a diversified fund to being adversely affected by any single corporate, economic, political or regulatory occurrence. See "The Fund's Investments."

Anti-Takeover Provisions. The Fund's Articles of Incorporation (the "Articles") and by-laws ("By-Laws") include provisions that could limit the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or convert the Fund to an open-end fund. These provisions could have the effect of depriving Common Stockholders of opportunities to sell their Common Stock at a premium over the then-current market price of the Common Stock.

SUMMARY OF FUND EXPENSES

The purpose of the following table and example is to help you understand all fees and expenses holders of Common Stock would bear directly or indirectly. The table below is based on the capital structure of the Fund as of May 31, 2013 (except as noted below).

	Percentage of Offering Price
STOCKHOLDER TRANSACTION EXPENSES	
Sales Load	0%
Offering Expenses Borne by the Fund (as a percentage of offering price)	0%
Dividend Reinvestment Plan Fees	None ⁽³⁾
TOTAL TRANSACTION EXPENSES (AS A PERCENTAGE OF OFFERING PRICE)⁽⁴⁾	

	Percentage of Net Assets Attributable to Common Stock (Including Borrowings)
ANNUAL EXPENSES	
Management Fees ⁽⁵⁾	1.30%
Interest Payments on Borrowed Funds ⁽⁶⁾	0.53%
Other Expenses ⁽⁷⁾	0.15%
Annual Expenses (exclusive of current and deferred income tax expense)	1.98%
Current Income Tax Expense ⁽⁸⁾	%
Deferred Income Tax Expense ⁽⁹⁾	18.64%
TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES (including current and deferred income tax expense)	20.62%

- (1) The sales load will apply only if the securities to which this Prospectus relates are sold to or through underwriters. In such case, a corresponding Prospectus Supplement will disclose the applicable sales load.
- (2) The related Prospectus Supplement will disclose the estimated amount of offering expenses, the offering price and the offering expenses borne by the Fund as a percentage of the offering price.
- (3) Common Stockholders will pay brokerage charges if they direct the Plan Agent (defined below) to sell Common Stock held in a dividend reinvestment account. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- (4) The related Prospectus Supplement will disclose the offering price and the total stockholder transaction expenses as a percentage of the offering price.
- (5) LMPFA receives an annual fee, payable monthly, in an amount equal to 1.00% of the Fund's average daily Managed Assets. Managed Assets means net assets plus the amount of any Borrowings and assets attributable to any Preferred Stock that may be outstanding. For the purposes of this table, we have assumed that the Fund has utilized Borrowings in an aggregate amount of 23.0% of its Managed Assets (after their issuance), which equals the level of leverage for the Fund as of May 31, 2013. If the Fund were to use financial leverage in excess of 23.0% of its Managed Assets, the management fees shown would be higher.
- (6) For the purposes of this table, we have assumed that the Fund has utilized Borrowings in an aggregate amount of 23.0% of its Managed Assets (after their issuance), which equals the level of leverage for the Fund as of May 31, 2013. The expenses and rates associated with leverage may vary as and when Borrowings or issuances of Preferred Stock are made.
- (7) Estimated based on amounts incurred for the period from June 27, 2012 (commencement of operations) to May 31, 2013.
- (8) For the period from June 27, 2012 (commencement of operations) to May 31, 2013, we recorded \$0 of current income tax expense.
- (9) For the period from June 27, 2012 (commencement of operations) to May 31, 2013, we recorded \$75,322,137 of deferred income tax expense.

Example

The following example illustrates the hypothetical expenses that you would pay on a \$1,000 investment in Common Stock, assuming (i) Total Annual Expenses of 20.62% of net assets attributable to Common Stock in years one through ten (which assumes the Fund's use of leverage through Borrowings in an aggregate amount equal to 23.0% of the Fund's Managed Assets) and (ii) a 5% annual return⁽¹⁾

1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
\$190	\$ 485	\$ 695	\$ 993

- (1) **The example above should not be considered a representation of future expenses. Actual expenses may be higher or lower than those shown.** The example assumes that all dividends and distributions are reinvested at net asset value. Actual expenses may be greater or less than those assumed. Moreover, the Fund's actual rate of return may be greater or less than the hypothetical 5% return shown in the example.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The financial highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance. The information in this table is derived from the Fund's financial statements, including the unaudited financial statements for the six months ended May 31, 2013 and the audited financial statements for the period ended November 30, 2012, audited by KPMG LLP, the independent registered accounting firm of the Fund, whose report on such financial statements, together with the financial statements of the Fund, are included in the SAI incorporated by reference into this Prospectus.

For a share of capital stock outstanding for the periods noted below:

	May 31, 2013 (unaudited) ^{1,2}	November 30 2012 (audited) ^{1,3}
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$ 19.59	\$ 19.06 ⁴
Income (loss) from operations:		
Net investment loss	(0.12)	(0.08)
Net realized and unrealized gain	3.45	1.26
Total income from operations	3.33	1.18
Less dividends/distributions:		
Return of capital	(0.66)	(0.65)
Total distributions	(0.66)	(0.65)
Net asset value, end of year	\$ 22.26	\$ 19.59
Market price, end of year	\$ 23.05	\$ 19.82
Total return, based on NAV^{5,6}	17.03%	6.28%
Total return, based on Market Price⁷	19.84%	2.50%
Net assets, end of year (millions)	\$ 852	\$ 748
Ratios to average net assets:		
Management fees	1.30%	1.24% ⁸
Other expenses	0.68 ⁹	0.46 ^{8,10}
Subtotal	1.98	1.69
Income tax expense ⁸	18.64	8.55
Total expenses⁸	20.62	10.24^{10,11}
Net investment loss, net of income taxes ⁸	(1.13)	(0.92)
Portfolio turnover rate	14%	4%
Supplemental data:		
Loans Outstanding, End of Year (000s)	\$ 255,000	\$ 240,000
Asset Coverage for Loan Outstanding	434%	412%
Weighted Average Loan (000s)	\$ 243,204	\$ 175,796
Weighted Average Interest Rate on Loans	1.78%	1.04%

1 Per share amounts have been calculated using the average shares method.

2 For the six months ended May 31, 2013 (unaudited).

3 For the period June 27, 2012 (commencement of operations) to November 30, 2012.

4 Initial public offering price of \$20.00 per share less offering costs and sales load totaling \$0.94 per share.

5 Performance figures may reflect compensating balance arrangements, fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements. In the absence of compensating balance arrangements, fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements, the total return would have been lower. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.

Edgar Filing: ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. - Form N-2/A

- 6 The total return calculation assumes that distributions are reinvested at NAV. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.
- 7 The total return calculation assumes that distributions are reinvested in accordance with the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.
- 8 Annualized.
- 9 The impact of compensating balance arrangements, if any, was less than 0.01%
- 10 The impact of compensating balance arrangements was 0.02%
- 11 Excludes the impact of reimbursement for organization fees in the amount of 0.02%. Inclusive of the reimbursement the ratio is 10.22%. The investment manager has agreed to reimburse all organization expenses.

SENIOR SECURITIES

As of May 31, 2013, the Fund had outstanding fixed-rate senior secured notes (the Senior Notes) in an aggregate principal amount of \$180 million and had \$75 million outstanding under its 364-day secured revolving credit facility (the Credit Facility) with a financial institution. The Senior Notes were issued and the Credit Facility was entered into on March 28, 2013. The Credit Facility allows the Fund to borrow up to \$125 million. Prior to entering into the Credit Facility, the Fund was party to a 364-day revolving credit agreement with a financial institution that permitted it to borrow up to \$300 million (the Prior Credit Facility).

DATE	NAME OF LOAN	MATURITY	TOTAL AMOUNT OUTSTANDING	ASSET COVERAGE PER \$1,000 OF INDEBTEDNESS
November 30, 2012	Prior Credit Facility	July 17, 2013	\$ 240,000,000	\$ 4,120
May 31, 2013	Credit Facility	March 27, 2014	\$ 75,000,000	\$ 4,340
	3.33% Senior Notes, Series A	March 28, 2020	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 4,340
	3.93% Senior Notes, Series B	March 28, 2023	\$ 70,000,000	\$ 4,340
	4.08% Senior Notes, Series C	March 28, 2025	\$ 80,000,000	\$ 4,340

THE FUND

The Fund is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company registered under the 1940 Act. The Fund was incorporated as a Maryland corporation on April 10, 2012, pursuant to the Articles. The Fund's principal executive office is located at 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, New York 10018, and its telephone number is (888) 777-0102.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise specified in a Prospectus Supplement, the Fund intends to invest the net proceeds of any offering of its securities in accordance with its investment objective and policies as stated herein. It is currently anticipated that the Fund will be able to invest substantially all of the net proceeds in accordance with its investment objective and policies within three months after the completion of any offering. Pending such investment, it is anticipated that the proceeds will be primarily invested in short-term money market instruments. The Fund may also invest in U.S. government securities.

MARKET AND NET ASSET VALUE INFORMATION

The Fund's currently outstanding Common Stock is listed on the NYSE under the symbol CTR. Our Common Stock commenced trading on the NYSE on June 27, 2012.

Although our Common Stock has traded at a premium to net asset value, we cannot assure that this will continue after any offering or that the Common Stock will not trade at a discount in the future. Our issuance of additional Common Stock may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for our Common Stock by increasing the number of shares of Common Stock available, which may create downward pressure on the market price for our Common Stock. Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to net asset value. See Risk Factors Market Discount from Net Asset Value Risk.

The following table sets forth for each of the periods indicated the range of high and low closing sale price of our Common Stock and the quarter-end sale price, each as reported on the NYSE, the net asset value per share of Common Stock and the premium or discount to net asset value per share at which our shares were trading. Net asset value is generally determined on each business day that the NYSE is open for business. See Net Asset Value for information as to the determination of our net asset value.

	Quarterly Closing Sale Price			Quarter-End Closing	
	High	Low	Sales Price	Net Asset Value Per Share of Common Stock(1)	Premium/ (Discount) of Quarter-End Sale Price to Net Asset Value(2)
Fiscal Year 2012					
August 31, 2012 (since June 27, 2012)	\$ 20.90	\$ 19.92	\$ 20.06	\$ 19.46	3.083%
November 30, 2012	20.69	18.82	19.82	19.59	1.174%
Fiscal Year 2013					
February 28, 2013	21.69	18.85	21.45	21.09	1.707%
May 31, 2013	24.70	21.30	23.05	22.26	3.549%
August 30, 2013	24.34	21.38	22.94	22.05	4.036%

Source of market prices: Reuters Group PLC.

- (1) Net asset value per share is determined as of close of business on the last day of the relevant quarter and therefore may not reflect the net asset value per share on the date of the high and low closing sales prices, which may or may not fall on the last day of the quarter. Net asset value per share is calculated as described in Net Asset Value.
- (2) Calculated as of the quarter-end closing sales price divided by the quarter-end net asset value.

On October 28, 2013, the last reported sales price of our Common Stock on the NYSE was \$22.53 which represented a discount of approximately 1.31% to the net asset value per share reported by us on that date.

As of October 28, 2013, we had approximately 38.3 million shares of Common Stock outstanding and we had net assets applicable to Common Stockholders of approximately \$874.4 million.

THE FUND'S INVESTMENTS

Investment Objective

The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of total return, consisting of cash distributions and capital appreciation. There can be no assurance the Fund will achieve its investment objective or earn a return on its assets, and you could lose some or all of your investment.

This section provides additional information about the Fund's investments and certain portfolio management techniques the Fund may use. More information about the Fund's investments and portfolio management techniques and the associated risks is included in the SAI.

Investment Strategies

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its Managed Assets in securities of energy MLPs. For purposes of the 80% policy, the Fund considers investments in MLPs to include investments that offer economic exposure to public and private MLPs in the form of MLP equity securities, securities of entities holding primarily general partner or managing member interests in MLPs, securities that are derivatives of interests in MLPs, including I-Shares, exchange-traded funds that primarily hold MLP interests and debt securities of MLPs. Energy entities are engaged in the business of exploring, developing, producing, gathering, transporting, processing, storing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products or coal. For as long as Energy MLP is in the name of the Fund, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs. The Fund may not change its policy to invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs unless it provides stockholders with at least 60 days' written notice of such change.

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in securities of issuers that are not MLPs. This 20% allocation may be in any of the securities described in this Prospectus and the SAI. Such issuers may be treated as corporations for United States federal income tax purposes and, therefore, may not offer the tax benefits of investing in MLPs described in this Prospectus.

The Fund may invest up to 30% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities. Restricted securities are securities that are unregistered, held by control persons of the issuer or subject to contractual restrictions on resale. In connection with its investments in restricted securities generally, the Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets in restricted securities issued by non-public companies.

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in debt securities of MLPs and other issuers, including both investment grade debt securities and debt securities rated below investment grade (that is, rated Ba or lower by Moody's, BB+ or lower by S&P or Fitch, comparably rated by another NRSRO, or, if unrated, as determined by ClearBridge to be of comparable credit quality).

Selection of Investments

An MLP's total return consists of two parts: distributions paid and capital appreciation. Presently, ClearBridge believes the market often inefficiently values MLPs by overemphasizing the importance of current yield and undervaluing the impact of distribution growth. MLPs distribution growth rates have historically varied widely, a trend that ClearBridge believes will continue in the future. ClearBridge also believes that distribution growth is the primary driver for MLP investment capital appreciation. A focus on MLPs with higher distribution growth rates, therefore, can help the Fund deliver attractive current distributions and offer the potential for above-average total returns.

ClearBridge employs a rigorous, bottom-up research process focused on seeking to find MLPs with attractive, sustainable and predictable distributions. ClearBridge also evaluates growth opportunities for MLPs in determining the desirability of a potential investment. In conducting this analysis, particular attention is paid to the stability of the business, the quality of the balance sheet, the talent and track record of management, and the valuation of the security. ClearBridge's primary valuation metric in analyzing MLPs is distributable cash flow yield.

ClearBridge places strong emphasis on risk management around its investment process. Risk management considerations are contemplated at both the level of the individual investment and the portfolio as a whole. At the level of the individual investment, the prime risk consideration revolves around the sustainability of the cash distribution and position size. In evaluating the distribution sustainability, the portfolio managers utilize balance sheet analysis and financial modeling. At the portfolio level, ClearBridge pays close attention to individual security weightings, sector weightings and allocations, and the amount of leverage employed, as well as macroeconomic and broader market considerations.

ClearBridge evaluates the Fund's current individual investments on an on-going basis to ensure they meet the Fund's investment objective, strategies and risk management profile. When an individual security, in ClearBridge's assessment, no longer offers above-average distribution growth, stable and predictable cash flows, limited direct commodity exposure, or a strong management team, the Fund may sell the security. In addition, the Fund may also sell securities in instances where more attractive investments, based on ClearBridge's assessment of risk-adjusted total return, become available to the Fund.

Portfolio Composition

The Fund's portfolio is composed principally of the following investments. Additional information regarding the Fund's investment policies, restrictions and portfolio investments is contained in the SAI.

Master Limited Partnerships

Entities commonly referred to as MLPs are generally organized under state law as limited partnerships or limited liability companies. The securities issued by many MLPs are listed and traded on a securities exchange. An MLP typically issues general partner and limited partner interests, or managing member and member interests. The general partner or managing member manages and often controls, has an ownership stake in, and is normally eligible to receive incentive distribution payments from, the MLP. If publicly traded, MLPs must derive at least 90% of their gross income from qualifying sources as described in Section 7704 of the Code in order to be treated as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes.

These qualifying sources include interest, dividends, real estate rents, gain from the sale or disposition of real property, income and gain from mineral or natural resources activities, income and gain from the transportation or storage of certain fuels, and, in certain circumstances, income and gain from commodities or futures, forwards and options with respect to commodities. Mineral or natural resources activities include exploration, development, production, processing, mining, refining, marketing and transportation (including pipelines) of oil and gas, minerals, geothermal energy, fertilizer, timber or industrial source carbon dioxide. The general partner or managing member may be structured as a private or publicly traded corporation or other entity. The general partner or managing member typically controls the operations and management of the entity through an up to 2% general partner or managing member interest in the entity plus, in many cases, ownership of some percentage of the outstanding limited partner or member interests. The limited partners or members, through their ownership of limited partner or member interests, provide capital to the entity, are intended to have no role in the operation and management of the entity and receive cash distributions. Due to their structure as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes and the expected character of their income, MLPs generally do not pay United States federal income taxes. Thus, unlike investors in corporate securities, direct MLP investors are generally not subject to double taxation (i.e., corporate level tax and tax on corporate dividends). Currently, most MLPs operate in the energy and natural resources sectors.

MLPs are typically structured such that common units and general partner or managing member interests have first priority to receive the MQD. Common and general partner or managing member interests also accrue

arrearages in distributions to the extent the MQD is not paid. Once common units and general partner or managing member interests have been paid, subordinated units generally receive distributions; however, subordinated units generally do not accrue arrearages. The subordinated units are normally owned by the owners or affiliates of the general partner or managing member and convert on a one for one basis into common units, generally in three to five years after the MLP's initial public offering or after certain distribution levels have been exceeded. Distributable cash in excess of the MQD is distributed to both common and subordinated units generally on a pro rata basis. The general partner or managing member is also normally eligible to receive incentive distributions if the general partner or managing member operates the business in a manner which results in payment of per unit distributions that exceed threshold levels above the MQD. As the general partner or managing member increases cash distributions to the limited partners or members, the general partner or managing member receives an increasingly higher percentage of the incremental cash distributions. A common arrangement provides that the general partner or managing member can reach a tier where it receives 50% of every incremental dollar distributed by the MLP. These incentive distributions encourage the general partner or managing member to increase the partnership's cash flow and raise the quarterly cash distribution by pursuing steady cash flow investment opportunities, streamlining costs and acquiring assets. Such results benefit all security holders of the MLP.

MLP Equity Securities

Equity securities issued by MLPs currently consist of common units, subordinated units and preferred units.

MLP Common Units. MLP common units are typically listed and traded on national securities exchanges, including the NYSE and the NASDAQ. The Fund typically purchases such common units through open market transactions and underwritten offerings, but may also acquire common units through direct placements and privately negotiated transactions. Holders of MLP common units typically have very limited control and voting rights. Holders of such common units are typically entitled to receive the MQD, including arrearage rights, from the issuer. Generally, an MLP must pay (or set aside for payment) the MQD to holders of common units before any distributions may be paid to subordinated unit holders. In addition, incentive distributions are typically not paid to the general partner or managing member unless the quarterly distributions on the common units exceed specified threshold levels above the MQD. In the event of a liquidation, common unit holders are intended to have a preference to the remaining assets of the issuer over holders of subordinated units. MLPs also issue different classes of common units that may have different voting, trading, and distribution rights. The Fund may invest in different classes of common units.

MLP Subordinated Units. MLP subordinated units, which, like common units, represent limited partner or member interests, are not typically listed on an exchange or publicly traded. The Fund typically purchases MLP subordinated units through negotiated transactions directly with holders of such units or newly issued subordinated units directly from the issuer. Holders of such subordinated units are generally entitled to receive a distribution only after the MQD and any arrearages from prior quarters have been paid to holders of common units. Holders of subordinated units typically have the right to receive distributions before any incentive distributions are payable to the general partner or managing member. Subordinated units generally do not provide arrearage rights. Most MLP subordinated units are convertible into common units after the passage of a specified period of time or upon the achievement by the MLP of specified financial goals. MLPs also issue different classes of subordinated units that may have different voting, trading, and distribution rights. The Fund may invest in different classes of subordinated units.

MLP Preferred Units. MLP preferred units are not typically listed on an exchange or publicly traded. The Fund typically purchases MLP preferred units through negotiated transactions directly with MLPs, affiliates of MLPs and institutional holders of such units. Holders of MLP preferred units can be entitled to a wide range of voting and other rights, depending on the structure of each separate security.

Other Equity Securities

The Fund may invest in equity securities issued by affiliates of MLPs, including the general partners or managing members of MLPs. Such issuers may be organized and/or taxed as corporations and therefore may not

offer the advantageous tax characteristics of MLP units. The Fund intends to purchase equity securities through market transactions, but may also acquire equity securities through direct placements.

I-Shares. I-Shares represent an ownership interest issued by an MLP affiliate. The MLP affiliate uses the proceeds from the sale of I-Shares to purchase limited partnership interests in the MLP in the form of I-units. Thus, I-Shares represent an indirect interest in an MLP limited partnership interest. I-units generally have similar features as MLP common units in terms of voting rights and distribution but often may be subordinated in liquidation rights. I-Shares themselves have limited voting rights and are similar in that respect to MLP common units. I-Shares differ from MLP common units primarily in that instead of receiving cash distributions, holders of I-Shares will receive distributions of additional I-Shares (which are generally tax-free) in an amount equal to the cash distributions received by common unit holders. I-Shares are traded on the NYSE. For purposes of the Fund's 80% policy, securities that are derivatives of interests in MLPs include I-Shares and other derivative securities that have economic characteristics of MLP securities.

MLP General Partner or Managing Member Interests. The general partner or managing member interest in MLPs is typically retained by the original sponsors of an MLP, such as its founders, corporate partners and entities that sell assets to the MLP. The holder of the general partner or managing member interest can be liable in certain circumstances for amounts greater than the amount of the holder's investment in the general partner or managing member. General partner or managing member interests often confer direct board participation rights in, and in many cases control over the operations of, the MLP. General partner or managing member interests can be privately held or owned by publicly traded entities. General partner or managing member interests receive cash distributions, typically in an amount of up to 2% of available cash, which is contractually defined in the partnership or limited liability company agreement. In addition, holders of general partner or managing member interests typically receive IDRs, which provide them with an increasing share of the entity's aggregate cash distributions upon the payment of common unit distributions that exceed specified threshold levels above the MQD. Due to the IDRs, general partners of MLPs have higher distribution growth prospects than their underlying MLPs, but quarterly incentive distribution payments would also decline at a greater rate than the decline rate in quarterly distributions to common and subordinated unit holders in the event of a reduction in the MLP's quarterly distribution. The ability of the limited partners or members to remove the general partner or managing member without cause is typically very limited. In addition, some MLPs permit the holder of IDRs to reset, under specified circumstances, the incentive distribution levels and receive compensation in exchange for the distribution rights given up in the reset.

MLP Industries

Energy MLPs can generally be classified into the following industries:

Pipeline MLPs. Pipeline MLPs are common carrier transporters of natural gas, natural gas liquids (primarily propane, ethane, butane and natural gasoline), crude oil or refined petroleum products (gasoline, diesel fuel and jet fuel). Pipeline MLPs also may operate ancillary businesses such as storage and marketing of such products. Pipeline MLPs derive revenue from capacity and transportation fees. Historically, pipeline output has been less exposed to cyclical economic forces due to its low cost structure and government-regulated nature. In addition, most pipeline MLPs have limited direct commodity price exposure because they do not own the product being shipped.

Processing MLPs. Processing MLPs are gatherers and processors of natural gas as well as providers of transportation, fractionation and storage of natural gas liquids (NGLs). Processing MLPs derive revenue from providing services to natural gas producers, which require treatment or processing before their natural gas commodity can be marketed to utilities and other end user markets. Revenue for the processor is fee based, although it is not uncommon to have some participation in the prices of the natural gas and NGL commodities for a portion of revenue.

Gathering and Processing MLPs. Gathering and processing companies are subject to natural declines in the production of oil and natural gas fields, which utilize their gathering and processing facilities as a way to market their production, prolonged declines in the price of natural gas or crude oil, which curtails drilling activity and

therefore production, and declines in the prices of natural gas liquids and refined petroleum products, which cause lower processing margins. In addition, some gathering and processing contracts subject the gathering or processing company to direct commodities price risk.

Midstream MLPs. Midstream MLPs and energy companies that provide crude oil, refined product and natural gas services are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve which will be impacted by a wide range of factors including, fluctuating commodity prices, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events, and economic conditions, among others.

Propane MLPs. Propane MLPs are distributors of propane to homeowners for space and water heating. Propane MLPs derive revenue from the resale of the commodity on a margin over wholesale cost. The ability to maintain margin is a key to profitability. Propane serves a small portion of the household energy needs in the United States, largely for homes beyond the geographic reach of natural gas distribution pipelines. A majority of annual cash flow is earned during the winter heating season (October through March). Accordingly, volumes are weather dependent, but have utility type functions similar to electricity and natural gas.

Exploration and Production MLPs (E&P MLPs). E&P MLPs include MLPs that are engaged in the exploration, development, production and acquisition of crude oil and natural gas properties. E&P MLP cash flows generally depend on the volume of crude oil and natural gas produced and the realized prices received for crude oil and natural gas sales.

Coal MLPs. Coal MLPs own, lease and manage coal reserves. Coal MLPs derive revenue from production and sale of coal, or from royalty payments related to leases to coal producers. Electricity generation is the primary use of coal in the United States. Demand for electricity and supply of alternative fuels to generators are the primary drivers of coal demand. Coal MLPs are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve, which may be impacted by a wide range of factors including fluctuating commodity prices, the level of their customers' coal stockpiles, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, mining accidents or catastrophic events, health claims and economic conditions, among others. Coal MLPs are also subject to operating and production risks, such as: the MLP or a lessee meeting necessary production volumes; federal, state and local laws and regulations which may limit the ability to produce coal; the MLP's ability to manage production costs and pay mining reclamation costs; and the effect on demand that the Environmental Protection Agency's standards set in the 1990 Clean Air Act or other laws, regulations or trends have on coal-end users.

Marine Shipping MLPs. Marine shipping MLPs are primarily marine transporters of natural gas, crude oil or refined petroleum products. Marine shipping MLPs derive revenue from charging customers for the transportation of these products utilizing the MLPs' vessels. Transportation services are typically provided pursuant to a charter or contract, the terms of which vary depending on, for example, the length of use of a particular vessel, the amount of cargo transported, the number of voyages made, the parties operating a vessel or other factors. See **Risks Industry Specific Risks.**

MLPs are subject to various federal, state and local environmental laws and health and safety laws as well as laws and regulations specific to their particular activities. These laws and regulations address: health and safety standards for the operation of facilities, transportation systems and the handling of materials; air and water pollution requirements and standards; solid waste disposal requirements; land reclamation requirements; and requirements relating to the handling and disposition of hazardous materials. MLPs are subject to the costs of compliance with such laws applicable to them, and changes in such laws and regulations may adversely affect their results of operations.

Non-MLP Equity Securities

The Fund also may invest in common and preferred stock, convertible securities, warrants and depository receipts of companies that are organized as corporations, limited liability companies or limited partnerships.

Common Stock. Common stock generally represents an equity ownership interest in an issuer. Although common stocks have historically generated higher average total returns than fixed-income securities over the long term, common stocks also have experienced significantly more volatility in those returns and may under-perform relative to fixed-income securities during certain periods. An adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may depress the value of a particular common stock held by the Fund. Also, prices of common stocks are sensitive to general movements in the stock market and a drop in the stock market may depress the price of common stocks to which the Fund has exposure. Common stock prices fluctuate for several reasons including changes in investors' perceptions of the financial condition of an issuer or the general condition of the relevant stock market, or the occurrence of political or economic events which effect the issuers. In addition, common stock prices may be particularly sensitive to rising interest rates, which increases borrowing costs and the costs of capital.

Preferred Stock. Preferred stock has a preference over common stock in liquidation (and generally as to dividends as well) but is subordinated to the liabilities of the issuer in all respects. As a general rule, the market value of preferred stock with a fixed dividend rate and no conversion element varies inversely with interest rates and perceived credit risk, while the market price of convertible preferred stock generally also reflects some element of conversion value. Because preferred stock is junior to debt securities and other obligations of the issuer, deterioration in the credit quality of the issuer will cause greater changes in the value of a preferred stock than in a more senior debt security with similarly stated yield characteristics. The market value of preferred stock will also generally reflect whether (and if so when) the issuer may force holders to sell their preferred shares back to the issuer and whether (and if so when) the holders may force the issuer to buy back their preferred shares. Generally, the right of the issuer to repurchase the preferred stock tends to reduce any premium that the preferred stock might otherwise trade at due to interest rate or credit factors, while the right of the holders to require the issuer to repurchase the preferred stock tends to reduce any discount that the preferred stock might otherwise trade at due to interest rate or credit factors. In addition, some preferred stocks are non-cumulative, meaning that the dividends do not accumulate and need not ever be paid. A portion of the Fund's portfolio may include investments in non-cumulative preferred securities, whereby the issuer does not have an obligation to make up any arrearages to its shareholders. There is no assurance that dividends or distributions on non-cumulative preferred stocks in which the Fund invests will be declared or otherwise paid. Preferred stock of certain companies offers the opportunity for capital appreciation as well as periodic income. This may be particularly true in the case of companies that have performed below expectations. If a company's performance has been poor enough, its preferred stock may trade more like common stock than like other fixed income securities, which may result in above average appreciation if the company's performance improves.

Convertible Securities. A convertible security is a preferred stock, warrant or other security that may be converted into or exchanged for a prescribed amount of common stock or other security of the same or a different issuer or into cash within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula. A convertible security generally entitles the holder to receive the dividend paid on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Before conversion, convertible securities generally have characteristics similar to both fixed income and equity securities. The value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates rise and, because of the conversion feature, tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying securities. Convertible securities ordinarily provide a stream of income with generally higher yields than those of common stock of the same or similar issuers. Convertible securities generally rank senior to common stock in a corporation's capital structure but are usually subordinated to comparable non-convertible securities. Convertible securities generally do not participate directly in any dividend increases or decreases of the underlying securities although the market prices of convertible securities may be affected by any dividend changes or other changes in the underlying securities.

Warrants and Rights. The Fund may invest in warrants or rights (including those acquired in units or attached to other securities) that entitle the holder to buy equity securities at a specific price for a specific period of time but will do so only if such equity securities are deemed appropriate by ClearBridge for inclusion in the Fund's portfolio.

Restricted Securities and Securities with Limited Trading Markets

The Fund may invest up to 30% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities, and up to 15% of its Managed Assets in restricted securities issued by non-public companies. If the Fund were to assume substantial positions in securities with limited trading markets, the activities of the Fund could have an adverse effect upon the liquidity and marketability of such securities and the Fund might not be able to dispose of its holdings in those securities at then current market prices. Circumstances could also exist when portfolio securities might have to be sold by the Fund at times which otherwise might be considered to be disadvantageous so that the Fund might receive lower proceeds from such sales than it had expected to realize. Investments in restricted securities may involve added expenses to the Fund should the Fund be required to bear registration costs with respect to such securities. The Fund could also be delayed in disposing of such securities which might have an adverse effect upon the price and timing of sales and the liquidity of the Fund. Restricted securities and securities for which there is a limited trading market may be significantly more difficult to value due to the unavailability of reliable market quotations for such securities, and investment in such securities may have an adverse impact on the Fund's net asset value. The Fund may purchase Rule 144A securities for which there may be a secondary market of qualified institutional buyers as contemplated by Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act").

Debt Securities

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in debt securities, including both investment grade and non-investment grade debt securities, of MLPs and other issuers. Debt securities may have fixed or variable principal payments and all types of interest rate and dividend payment and reset terms, including fixed rate, adjustable rate, zero coupon, contingent, deferred, payment in kind and auction rate features. The Fund has the flexibility to invest in debt securities that are below investment grade quality (that is, rated Ba or lower by Moody's, BB+ or lower by S&P or Fitch, comparably rated by another NRSRO, or, if unrated, determined by ClearBridge to be of comparable credit quality). These debt securities are commonly referred to as "high yield" securities or "junk" bonds. The Fund may invest in debt securities without regard for their maturity. Issuers of securities rated Ba/BB+ are regarded as having current capacity to make principal and interest payments but are subject to business, financial or economic conditions which could adversely affect such payment capacity. Debt securities rated Baa3 or BBB- or above are considered "investment grade" securities. Debt securities rated below investment grade quality are obligations of issuers that are considered predominately speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal according to the terms of the obligation and, therefore, carry greater investment risk, including the possibility of issuer default and bankruptcy and increased market price volatility. Debt securities rated below investment grade tend to be less marketable than higher-quality securities because the market for them is less broad.

A general description of Moody's, S&P's and Fitch's ratings of bonds is set forth in Appendix A to the SAI. The ratings of Moody's, S&P and Fitch generally represent their opinions as to the quality of the bonds they rate. It should be emphasized, however, that such ratings are relative and subjective, are not absolute standards of quality, are subject to change and do not evaluate the market risk and liquidity of the securities. Consequently, bonds with the same maturity, coupon and rating may have different yields while obligations of the same maturity and coupon with different ratings may have the same yield. See "Risks Below Investment Grade (High Yield or Junk Bond) Securities Risk."

Royalty Trusts

The Fund may invest in royalty trusts. However, such investments do not count towards the Fund's 80% policy. Royalty trusts are publicly traded investment vehicles that gather income on royalties and pay out almost all cash flows to stockholders as distributions. Royalty trusts typically have no physical operations and no management or employees. Typically royalty trusts own the rights to royalties on the production and sales of a natural resource, including oil, gas, minerals and timber. As these deplete, production and cash flows steadily decline, which may decrease distribution rates. Royalty trusts are, in some respects, similar to certain MLPs and include risks similar to those MLPs.

Other Sector Investments

The Fund may invest in MLPs or MLP affiliates in other sectors of the economy. For instance, the Fund may invest in entities operating in the natural resources sector including companies principally engaged in owning or developing non-energy natural resources (including timber and minerals) and industrial materials, or supplying goods or services to such companies. Additionally, the Fund may invest in MLPs that focus on developing infrastructure assets.

Foreign Securities and Emerging Markets

The Fund may invest in securities of foreign issuers including securities traded on non-U.S. exchanges and of emerging markets issuers. Such investments in securities of foreign issuers may include investments in American Depositary Receipts (ADRs). ADRs are certificates evidencing ownership of shares of a foreign issuer that are issued by depositary banks and generally trade on an established market in the United States or elsewhere. A fund that invests in foreign (non-U.S.) securities may experience more rapid and extreme changes in value than a fund that invests exclusively in securities of U.S. companies. The securities markets of many foreign countries are relatively small, with a limited number of companies representing a small number of industries. Investments in foreign securities (including those denominated in U.S. dollars) are subject to economic and political developments in the countries and regions where the issuers operate or are domiciled, or where the securities are traded, such as changes in economic or monetary policies. Values may also be affected by restrictions on receiving the investment proceeds from a foreign country. Less information may be publicly available about foreign companies than about U.S. companies. Foreign companies are generally not subject to the same accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards as are U.S. companies. In addition, the Fund's investments in foreign securities may be subject to the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets, imposition of currency exchange controls or restrictions on the repatriation of foreign currency, confiscatory taxation, political or financial instability and adverse diplomatic developments. In addition, there may be difficulty in obtaining or enforcing a court judgment abroad. Dividends or interest on, or proceeds from the sale of, foreign securities may be subject to non-US. withholding taxes, and special U.S. tax considerations may apply.

The risks of foreign investment are greater for investments in emerging markets. The Fund considers a country to be an emerging market country if, at the time of investment, it is represented in the J.P. Morgan Emerging Markets Bond Index Global or categorized by the World Bank in its annual categorization as middle or low-income Emerging market countries typically have economic and political systems that are less fully developed, and that can be expected to be less stable, than those of more advanced countries. Low trading volumes may result in a lack of liquidity and in price volatility. Emerging market countries may have policies that restrict investment by foreigners, that require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons, or that prevent foreign investors from withdrawing their money at will. An investment in emerging market securities should be considered speculative.

Non-Diversification

The Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets, at the time of purchase, in securities of any single issuer.

Additional Investment Activities

Derivatives

Generally, derivatives are financial contracts whose value depends upon, or is derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index, and may relate to individual debt or equity instruments, interest rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, commodities, related indexes and other assets. The Fund may enter into derivative transactions, such as interest rate swaps, options contracts, futures contracts, forward contracts, options on futures contracts and indexed securities for investment, hedging and risk management purposes; provided that the Fund's exposure to derivative instruments, as measured by the total notional amount of all such instruments, will not exceed 33 1/3% of its Managed Assets. With respect to this limitation, the Fund may net derivatives with

opposite exposure to the same underlying instrument. To the extent that the security or index underlying the derivative or synthetic instrument is or is composed of securities of energy MLPs, the Fund will include such derivative and synthetic instruments for the purposes of the Fund's 80% policy. The Fund may sell certain equity securities short for investment and/or hedging purposes. See **Risks Derivatives Risk**. The Fund may use any or all of these techniques at any time, and the use of any particular derivative transaction will depend on market conditions. Additional information on the derivative transactions that the Fund may use is included in the SAI. The Fund's ability to pursue certain of these strategies may be limited by applicable regulations of the CFTC, SEC, or other applicable regulators.

The Fund is operated by persons who have claimed an exclusion, granted to operators of registered investment companies like the Fund, from registration as a commodity pool operator with respect to the Fund under the Commodity Exchange Act (the "CEA"), and, therefore, are not subject to registration or regulation with respect to the Fund under the CEA. As a result, effective December 31, 2012, the Fund is limited in its ability to use commodity futures (which include futures on broad-based securities indexes and interest rate futures) (collectively, "commodity interests") or options on commodity futures, engage in certain swaps transactions or make certain other investments (whether directly or indirectly through investments in other investment vehicles) for purposes other than bona fide hedging, as defined in the rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. With respect to transactions other than for bona fide hedging purposes, either: (1) the aggregate initial margin and premiums required to establish the Fund's positions in such investments may not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such investments); or (2) the aggregate net notional value of such instruments, determined at the time the most recent position was established, may not exceed 100% of the liquidation value of the Fund's portfolio (after accounting for unrealized profits and unrealized losses on any such positions). In addition to meeting one of the foregoing trading limitations, the Fund may not market itself as a commodity pool or otherwise as a vehicle for trading in the futures, options or swaps markets.

The Fund may use interest rate swaps for hedging purposes only and not as a speculative investment and would typically use interest rate swaps to shorten the average interest rate reset time of the Fund's holdings. Interest rate swaps involve the exchange by the Fund with another party of their respective commitments to pay or receive interest (e.g., an exchange of fixed rate payments for floating rate payments). The Fund will only enter into interest rate swaps on a net basis, which means that the two payment streams are netted out in a cash settlement on the payment date or dates specified in the interest rate swap, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. If the other party to an interest rate swap defaults, the Fund's risk of loss consists of the net amount of payments that the Fund is contractually entitled to receive. The net amount of the excess, if any, of the Fund's obligations over its entitlements will be maintained in a segregated account by the Fund's custodian. The Fund will not enter into any interest rate swap unless the claims-paying ability of the other party thereto is considered to be investment grade by ClearBridge. If there is a default by the other party to such a transaction, the Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction, which may or may not be limited by applicable bankruptcy, receivership, or other insolvency laws. These instruments are traded in the over-the-counter market, though in the future may be required to be traded through a derivatives clearing organization and/or a swap execution facility.

The Fund's use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, or possibly greater than, the risks associated with investment directly in securities and other more traditional investments.

Other Investment Companies

The Fund may, but has no current intention to, invest in securities of other closed-end or open-end investment companies that invest primarily in MLP entities in which the Fund may invest directly to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act. The Fund may invest in other investment companies during periods when it has large amounts of uninvested cash, such as the period shortly after the Fund receives the proceeds of the offering of its securities, during periods when there is a shortage of attractive MLP securities available in the market, or when ClearBridge believes share prices of other investment companies offer attractive values. The Fund may invest in investment companies that are advised by ClearBridge or its affiliates to the extent permitted by applicable law.

and/or pursuant to exemptive relief from the SEC. As a stockholder in an investment company, the Fund bears its ratable share of that investment company's expenses, and would remain subject to payment of the Fund's management fees and other expenses with respect to assets so invested. Stockholders would therefore be subject to duplicative expenses to the extent the Fund invests in other investment companies. ClearBridge takes expenses into account when evaluating the investment merits of an investment in an investment company relative to available investments. In addition, the securities of other investment companies may also be leveraged and therefore subject to the same leverage risks described herein. As described in the section entitled *Risks* *Leverage Risk*, the net asset value and market value of leveraged shares may be more volatile and the yield to stockholders may tend to fluctuate more than the yield generated by unleveraged shares. Other investment companies may have investment policies that differ from those of the Fund. In addition, to the extent the Fund invests in other investment companies, the Fund is dependent upon the investment and research abilities of persons other than ClearBridge.

New Securities and Other Investment Techniques

New types of securities and other investment and hedging practices are developed from time to time. ClearBridge expects, consistent with the Fund's investment objective and policies, to invest in such new types of securities and to engage in such new types of investment practices if ClearBridge believes that these investments and investment techniques may assist the Fund in achieving its investment objective. In addition, ClearBridge may use investment techniques and instruments that are not specifically described herein.

Temporary Defensive Strategies

At times ClearBridge may judge that conditions in the markets for securities of MLP entities make pursuing the Fund's primary investment strategy inconsistent with the best interests of its stockholders. At such times ClearBridge may, temporarily, use alternative strategies primarily designed to reduce fluctuations in the value of the Fund's assets. If the Fund takes a temporary defensive position, it may be unable to achieve its investment objective.

In implementing these defensive strategies, the Fund may invest all or a portion of its assets in cash, obligations of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities; other investment grade debt securities; investment grade commercial paper; certificates of deposit and bankers acceptances; or any other fixed income securities that ClearBridge considers consistent with this strategy. It is impossible to predict if, when or for how long the Fund will use these alternative strategies. There can be no assurance that such strategies will be successful.

Portfolio Turnover

It is not the Fund's policy to engage in transactions with the objective of seeking profits from short-term trading. However, the Fund may engage in active and frequent trading when ClearBridge believes such trading is, in light of prevailing economic and market conditions, in the best interests of the Fund's stockholders. Frequent trading also increases transaction costs, which could detract from the Fund's performance.

Fundamental Investment Policies

The Fund's investment objective, and the investment restrictions listed in the SAI, are considered fundamental and may not be changed without the approval of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Common Stock (and Preferred Stock, if any). A majority of the outstanding shares means (i) 67% or more of the shares present at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the shares outstanding are present or represented by proxy or (ii) more than 50% of the shares outstanding, whichever of (i) or (ii) is less. See *Investment Restrictions* in the SAI for a complete list of the fundamental and non-fundamental investment policies of the Fund.

USE OF LEVERAGE

The Fund may seek to enhance the level of its cash distributions to Common Stockholders through the use of leverage. The Fund currently uses leverage through Borrowings and may in the future continue to use leverage through Borrowings in an aggregate amount of up to 33 1/3% of the Fund's total assets immediately after such Borrowings. In addition, the Fund may enter into investment management techniques that have similar effects as leverage, but which are not subject to the foregoing 33 1/3% limitation so long as the Fund has covered its commitment with respect to such techniques by segregating liquid assets, entering into offsetting transactions or owning positions covering its obligations. Furthermore, the Fund may use leverage through the issuance of Preferred Stock in an aggregate amount of up to 50% of the Fund's total assets immediately after such issuance. The Fund may not use leverage at all times and the amount of leverage may vary depending upon a number of factors, including LMPFA's and ClearBridge's outlook for the market and the costs that the Fund would incur as a result of such leverage. As of May 31, 2013, the Fund had outstanding senior secured notes and a revolving credit facility with a financial institution in place under which it had Borrowings representing approximately 23.0% of our Managed Assets. Under current market conditions, the Fund intends to continue to utilize leverage principally through Borrowings in an amount up to 20-25% of its Managed Assets. Currently, the Fund has no intention to issue Preferred Stock, but circumstances may arise such that the Fund may choose to issue Preferred Stock. Any Borrowings and Preferred Stock have seniority over the Common Stock. There is no assurance that the Fund's leveraging strategy will be successful.

Any Borrowings and Preferred Stock (if issued) leverage your investment in Common Stock. Common Stockholders bear the costs associated with any Borrowings, and if the Fund issues Preferred Stock, Common Stockholders bear the offering costs of the Preferred Stock issuance. The Board of Directors of the Fund may authorize the use of leverage through Borrowings and Preferred Stock without the approval of the Common Stockholders.

The Fund has and is permitted in the future to negotiate with financial institutions to arrange a floating rate credit facility (the "Credit Facility") pursuant to which the Fund would be entitled to borrow an amount equal to approximately 33 1/3% of the Fund's Managed Assets less any amounts of existing leverage, including Debt Securities (as defined below). Any such Borrowings would constitute financial leverage. The Fund currently has one Credit Facility outstanding. The Fund has and is in the future permitted to issue senior secured notes or other debt securities ("Debt Securities") pursuant to which the Fund would be entitled to borrow an amount equal to approximately 33% of the Fund's Managed Assets less any amounts of existing leverage, including any Credit Facility. The Fund currently has Debt Securities outstanding consisting of \$180 million of senior secured notes. See "Effects of Leverage."

Under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to incur indebtedness unless immediately thereafter the total asset value of the Fund's portfolio is at least 300% of the aggregate amount of outstanding indebtedness (i.e., the aggregate amount of outstanding debt may not exceed 33 1/3% of the Fund's Managed Assets). In addition, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash distribution on its Common Stock unless, at the time of such declaration, the net asset value of the Fund's portfolio (determined by deducting the amount of such distribution) is at least 300% of the aggregate amount of such outstanding indebtedness. If the Fund borrows money, the Fund intends, to the extent possible, to retire outstanding debt from time to time to maintain coverage of any outstanding indebtedness of at least 300%. Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may only issue one class of senior securities representing indebtedness.

The Fund may be required to prepay outstanding amounts or incur a penalty rate of interest upon the occurrence of certain events of default. The Fund's current Credit Facility and Debt Securities contain customary covenants that, among other things, limit the Fund's ability to pay distributions in certain circumstances, incur additional debt, change its fundamental investment policies and engage in certain transactions, including mergers and consolidations, and require asset coverage ratios in addition to those required by the 1940 Act. The Fund expects any future Credit Facility or Debt Securities to contain similar covenants. In connection with the Fund's current Credit Facility and Debt Securities, the Fund is required to pledge its assets and any future Credit Facility or Debt Securities may require the same. The Fund's custodian will retain all assets of the pledge, including those

that are pledged. The Fund's custodian is not an affiliate of the Fund, as such term is defined in the 1940 Act. The Fund expects that any such Credit Facility or Debt Securities would have customary covenant, negative covenant and default provisions. There can be no assurance that the Fund will enter into an agreement for any new Credit Facility or issue new Debt Securities on terms and conditions representative of the foregoing, or that additional material terms will not apply. In addition, if entered into or issued, the Credit Facility or Debt Securities may in the future be replaced or refinanced by one or more credit facilities having substantially different terms or by the issuance of Preferred Stock or debt securities.

Changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio securities, including costs attributable to Borrowings or Preferred Stock, are borne entirely by the holders of the Common Stock. If there is a net decrease (or increase) in the value of the Fund's investment portfolio, the leverage decreases (or increases) the net asset value per share of Common Stock to a greater extent than if the Fund were not leveraged. During periods when the Fund is using leverage through Borrowings or the issuance of Preferred Stock, the fees paid to LMPFA and ClearBridge for advisory services are higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid are calculated on the basis of the Fund's Managed Assets, which includes the principal amount of the Borrowings and any assets attributable to the issuance of Preferred Stock. This means that LMPFA and ClearBridge may have a financial incentive to increase the Fund's use of leverage.

Utilization of leverage is a speculative investment technique and involves certain risks to the Common Stockholders. These include the possibility of higher volatility of the net asset value of the Common Stock and potentially more volatility in the market value of the Common Stock. So long as the Fund is able to realize a higher net return on its investment portfolio than the then-current cost of any leverage together with other related expenses, the effect of the leverage is to cause Common Stockholders to realize a higher rate of return than if the Fund were not so leveraged. On the other hand, to the extent that the then-current cost of any leverage, together with other related expenses, approaches the net return on the Fund's investment portfolio, the benefit of leverage to Common Stockholders is reduced, and if the then-current cost of any leverage together with related expenses were to exceed the net return on the Fund's portfolio, the Fund's leveraged capital structure would result in a lower rate of return to Common Stockholders than if the Fund were not so leveraged.

The Fund's current Borrowings subject it to certain restrictions imposed either by guidelines of one or more rating agencies. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed on the Fund by the 1940 Act. It is not anticipated that these covenants or guidelines will impede LMPFA and ClearBridge from managing the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies.

Under the 1940 Act, the Fund is not permitted to issue Preferred Stock unless immediately after such issuance the value of the Fund's asset coverage is at least 200% of the liquidation value of the outstanding Preferred Stock (i.e., such liquidation value may not exceed 50% of the Fund's assets less all liabilities other than Borrowings and outstanding Preferred Stock). Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may only issue one class of Preferred Stock.

In addition, the Fund is not permitted to declare any cash dividend or other distribution on its Common Stock unless, at the time of such declaration, the value of the Fund's assets less liabilities other than Borrowings and outstanding Preferred Stock satisfies the above-referenced 200% coverage requirement. If Preferred Stock is issued, the Fund intends, to the extent possible, to purchase or redeem Preferred Stock from time to time to the extent necessary in order to maintain coverage of at least 200%.

If Preferred Stock is outstanding, two of the Fund's Directors will be elected by the holders of Preferred Stock, voting separately as a class. The remaining Directors of the Fund will be elected by holders of Common Stock and Preferred Stock voting together as a single class. In the event that the Fund fails to pay dividends on the Preferred Stock for two years, holders of Preferred Stock would be entitled to elect a majority of the Directors of the Fund.

Effects of Leverage

We have Borrowings consisting of outstanding senior secured notes and one revolving credit facility, which, as of May 31, 2013, had a total principal amount outstanding of \$255.0 million. As of the date of this Prospectus, the Fund has no other forms of Borrowings or Preferred Stock outstanding. After any offering of our Common Shares pursuant to this Prospectus and any Prospectus Supplement, we expect to engage in additional Borrowings up to 20-25% of our Managed Assets at the time of Borrowing after giving effect to additional issuances of Common Shares. Assuming that our leverage costs are as described above, our average annual cost of leverage would be 3.04%. Income generated by our portfolio as of May 31, 2013 must exceed 0.66% in order to cover such leverage costs. These numbers are merely estimates used for illustration; actual dividend or interest rates on the leverage instruments will vary frequently and may be significantly higher or lower than the rate estimated above.

The interest rate payable by us on our Borrowings made under our revolving credit facility is LIBOR plus 0.80% and the commitment fee payable for unborrowed funds is 0.15%. As of May 31, 2013, there was \$75.0 million outstanding under this facility and the facility has a maximum availability of \$125 million.

The following table is furnished in response to requirements of the SEC. It is designed to illustrate the effect of leverage on Common Stock total return, assuming investment portfolio total returns (comprised of income and changes in the value of securities held in the Fund's portfolio) of -10%, -5%, 0%, 5% and 10%. These assumed investment portfolio returns are hypothetical figures and are not necessarily indicative of the investment portfolio returns experienced or expected to be experienced by the Fund. See Risks.

The table further reflects the issuance of leverage representing 23.0% of the Fund's Managed Assets, net of expenses, and the Fund's currently projected annual interest on its leverage of 3.04%.

Assumed Portfolio Total Return (Net of Expenses)	(10)%	(5)%	0%	5%	10%
Common Stock Total Return	(13.89)%	(7.40)%	(0.91)%	5.59%	12.08%

Common Stock Total Return is composed of two elements: the Common Stock dividends paid by the Fund (the amount of which is largely determined by the net investment income of the Fund after paying interest on its leverage) and gains or losses on the value of the securities the Fund owns. As required by SEC rules, the table above assumes that the Fund is more likely to suffer capital losses than to enjoy capital appreciation. For example, to assume a total return of 0% the Fund must assume that the return it receives on its investments is entirely offset by losses in the value of those investments.

RISKS

The Fund is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company designed primarily as a long-term investment and not as a trading vehicle. The Fund is not intended to be a complete investment program and, due to the uncertainty inherent in all investments, there can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective. Your securities at any point in time may be worth less than you invested, even after taking into account the reinvestment of Fund dividends and distributions.

Limited History of Operations

The Fund commenced operations on June 26, 2012 as a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company and has a limited history of operations and public trading.

Investment and Market Risk

An investment in the Fund is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire amount that you invest. Your investment in securities represents an indirect investment in MLPs and other securities owned by the Fund, most of which could be purchased directly. The value of the Fund's portfolio securities may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. At any point in time, your securities may be worth less than your original investment.

Risks of Investing in MLP Units

An investment in MLP units involves risks that differ from a similar investment in equity securities, such as common stock, of a corporation. Holders of MLP units have the rights typically afforded to limited partners in a limited partnership. As compared to common stockholders of a corporation, holders of MLP units have more limited control and limited rights to vote on matters affecting the partnership. Holders of MLP units are also exposed to the risk that they will be required to repay amounts to the MLP that are wrongfully distributed to them. There are certain tax risks associated with an investment in MLP units (described further below). Additionally, conflicts of interest may exist among common unit holders, subordinated unit holders and the general partner or managing member of an MLP; for example a conflict may arise as a result of incentive distribution payments.

Tax Risks of Investing in Equity Securities of MLPs

Much of the benefit the Fund derives from its investment in equity securities of MLPs is a result of MLPs generally being treated as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes. Partnerships do not pay United States federal income tax at the partnership level. Rather, each partner of a partnership, in computing its United States federal income tax liability, will include its allocable share of the partnership's income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses. A change in current tax law, a change in the business of a given MLP, or a change in the types of income earned by a given MLP, could result in an MLP being treated as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes, which would result in such MLP being required to pay United States federal income tax on its taxable income. The classification of an MLP as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes would have the effect of reducing the amount of cash available for distribution by the MLP and causing any such distributions received by the Fund to be taxed as dividend income to the extent of the MLP's current or accumulated earnings and profits. Thus, if any of the MLPs owned by the Fund were treated as corporations for United States federal income tax purposes, the after-tax return to the Fund with respect to its investment in such MLPs would be materially reduced, which could cause a substantial decline in the value of the Common Stock.

In addition, the potential tax benefit to the Fund of investing in MLPs depends in part on the particular MLP securities selected, and whether any distributions paid by such MLPs are treated as a return of capital (as opposed to currently taxable income). Accordingly, the Fund relies on ClearBridge to select MLP securities that provide distributions in excess of allocable taxable income. If ClearBridge fails to do so, a greater portion of the distributions received by the Fund may be comprised of taxable income (which would reduce the ability of the Fund to make distributions to Common Stockholders that are treated as a return of capital for United States federal income tax purposes). In such case, the Fund may have more corporate income tax expense than

expected, which would result in less cash available to distribute to Common Stockholders. Also, in connection with managing the Fund's portfolio in order to seek to maximize the potential tax benefits discussed above, ClearBridge may be forced to sell securities at times or prices that may be disadvantageous to the Fund.

The Fund is treated as a regular corporation, or a C corporation, for United States federal income tax purposes and, as a result, unlike most investment companies, is subject to corporate income tax to the extent the Fund recognizes positive returns. Any taxes paid by the Fund reduce the amount available to pay distributions to Common Stockholders, and therefore investors in the Fund will likely receive lower distributions than if they invested directly in MLPs.

To the extent that the Fund invests in the equity securities of an MLP, the Fund will be a partner in such MLP. Accordingly, the Fund is required to include in its taxable income the Fund's allocable share of the income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses recognized by each such MLP, regardless of whether the MLP distributes cash to the Fund. Historically, MLPs have been able to offset a significant portion of their income with tax deductions. The Fund incurs a current tax liability on its allocable share of an MLP's income and gains that are not offset by the MLP's tax deductions, losses and credits, or its net operating loss carryforwards, if any. The portion, if any, of a distribution received by the Fund from an MLP that is offset by the MLP's tax deductions, losses or credits is treated as a return of capital. However, those distributions reduce the Fund's adjusted tax basis in the equity securities of the MLP, which results in an increase in the amount of gain (or decrease in the amount of loss) that is recognized by the Fund for United States federal income tax purposes upon the sale of any such equity securities or upon subsequent distributions in respect of such equity securities. The percentage of an MLP's income and gains that are offset by tax deductions, losses and credits will fluctuate over time for various reasons. A significant slowdown in acquisition activity or capital spending by MLPs held in the Fund's portfolio could result in a reduction of accelerated depreciation generated by new acquisitions, which may result in increased current tax liability for the Fund.

The Fund accrues deferred income taxes for its future tax liability associated with the difference between the Fund's tax basis in an MLP security and the fair market value of the MLP security. Upon the Fund's sale of an MLP security, the Fund will be liable for previously deferred taxes on taxable realized gains from such sale. The Fund relies to some extent on information provided by MLPs, which may not necessarily be timely, to estimate its deferred tax liability for purposes of financial statement reporting and determining its net asset value. From time to time, the Fund may modify its estimates or assumptions regarding its deferred tax liability as new information becomes available.

Because of the Fund's status as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes and its investments in equity securities of MLPs, the Fund's earnings and profits for financial reporting purposes are calculated under GAAP, which are different from those used for calculating taxable income. Because of these differences, the Fund may make distributions out of its current or accumulated earnings and profits, which will be treated as dividends, in excess of its taxable income. See Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

In addition, changes in tax laws or regulations, or future interpretations of such laws or regulations, could adversely affect the Fund or the MLP investments in which the Fund invests. In particular, certain recent proposals have called for the elimination of tax incentives widely used by oil, gas and coal companies and the imposition of new fees on certain energy producers. The elimination of such tax incentives and imposition of such fees could materially adversely affect MLPs in which the Fund invests and the energy sector generally.

Lack of Diversification of MLP Customers and Suppliers

Certain MLPs in which the Fund invests or may invest in the future depend upon a limited number of customers for substantially all of their revenue. Similarly, certain MLPs in which the Fund invests or may invest in the future depend upon a limited number of suppliers of goods or services to continue their operations. The loss of any such customers or suppliers could materially adversely affect such MLPs' results of operations and cash flow, and their ability to make distributions to unit holders, such as the Fund, would therefore be materially adversely affected.

Affiliated Party Risk

Certain MLPs in which the Fund may invest depend upon their parent or sponsor entities for the majority of their revenues. Were their parent or sponsor entities to fail to make such payments or satisfy their obligations, the revenues and cash flows of such MLPs and ability of such MLPs to make distributions to unit holders, such as the Fund, would be adversely affected.

Equity Securities Risk

A substantial percentage of the Fund's assets are invested in equity securities, including MLP common units, MLP subordinated units, MLP preferred units, equity securities of MLP affiliates, including I-Shares, and common stocks of other issuers. Equity risk is the risk that MLP units or other equity securities held by the Fund will fall due to general market or economic conditions, perceptions regarding the industries in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, changes in interest rates, and the particular circumstances and performance of particular companies whose securities the Fund holds. The price of an equity security of an issuer may be particularly sensitive to general movements in the stock market, or a drop in the stock market may depress the price of most or all of the equity securities held by the Fund. In addition, MLP units or other equity securities held by the Fund may decline in price if the issuer fails to make anticipated distributions or dividend payments because, among other reasons, the issuer experiences a decline in its financial condition.

MLP subordinated units typically are convertible to MLP common units at a one-to-one ratio. The price of MLP subordinated units is typically tied to the price of the corresponding MLP common unit, less a discount. The size of the discount depends upon a variety of factors, including the likelihood of conversion, the length of time remaining until conversion and the size of the block of subordinated units being purchased or sold.

I-Shares represent an indirect investment in MLP I-units. Prices and volatilities of I-Shares tend to correlate to the price of common units. Holders of I-Shares are subject to the same risks as holders of MLP common units. In addition, I-Shares may trade less frequently, particularly those of issuers with smaller capitalizations. Given their potential for limited trading volume, I-Shares may display volatile or erratic price movements. In addition, I-Shares often may be subordinated in terms of liquidation rights to MLP common units.

Energy Sector Risks

MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are subject to many operating risks, including: equipment failure causing outages; structural, maintenance, impairment and safety problems; transmission or transportation constraints, inoperability or inefficiencies; dependence on a specified fuel source; changes in electricity and fuel usage; availability of competitively priced alternative energy sources; changes in generation efficiency and market heat rates; lack of sufficient capital to maintain facilities; significant capital expenditures to keep older assets operating efficiently; seasonality; changes in supply and demand for energy; catastrophic and/or weather-related events such as spills, leaks, well blowouts, uncontrollable flows, ruptures, fires, explosions, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, discharges of toxic gases and similar occurrences; storage, handling, disposal and decommissioning costs; and environmental compliance. Breakdown or failure of an energy company's assets may prevent it from performing under applicable sales agreements, which in certain situations, could result in termination of the agreement or incurring a liability for liquidated damages. As a result of the above risks and other potential hazards associated with energy companies, certain companies may become exposed to significant liabilities for which they may not have adequate insurance coverage. Any of the aforementioned risks could have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of energy companies.

Because the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs, concentration in the energy sector may present more risks than if the Fund were broadly diversified over numerous sectors of the economy. A downturn in the energy sector of the economy, adverse political, legislative or regulatory developments or other events could have a larger impact on the Fund than on an investment company that does not concentrate in the sector. At times, the performance of securities of companies in the sector may lag the performance of other sectors or the broader market as a whole. In addition, there are several specific risks associated with investments in the energy sector, including the following.

Regulatory Risk. The energy sector is highly regulated. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are subject to significant regulation of nearly every aspect of their operations by federal, state and local

governmental agencies. Such regulation can change rapidly or over time in both scope and intensity. For example, a particular by-product or process, including hydraulic fracturing, may be declared hazardous sometimes retroactively by a regulatory agency and unexpectedly increase production costs. Various governmental authorities have the power to enforce compliance with these regulations and the permits issued under them, and violators are subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, including civil fines, injunctions or both. Stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be enacted in the future which would likely increase compliance costs and may materially adversely affect the financial performance of MLPs.

Specifically, the operations of wells, gathering systems, pipelines, refineries and other facilities are subject to stringent and complex federal, state and local environmental laws and regulations. These include, for example:

the federal Clean Air Act and comparable state laws and regulations that impose obligations related to air emissions;

the federal Clean Water Act and comparable state laws and regulations that impose obligations related to discharges of pollutants into regulated bodies of water;

RCRA and comparable state laws and regulations that impose requirements for the handling and disposal of waste from facilities; and

CERCLA, also known as Superfund, and comparable state laws and regulations that regulate the cleanup of hazardous substances that may have been released at properties currently or previously owned or operated by MLPs or at locations to which they have sent waste for disposal.

Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may trigger a variety of administrative, civil and criminal enforcement measures, including the assessment of monetary penalties, the imposition of remedial requirements, and the issuance of orders enjoining future operations. Certain environmental statutes, including RCRA, CERCLA, the federal Oil Pollution Act and analogous state laws and regulations, impose strict, joint and several liability for costs required to clean up and restore sites where hazardous substances have been disposed of or otherwise released. Moreover, it is not uncommon for neighboring landowners and other third parties to file claims for personal injury and property damage allegedly caused by the release of hazardous substances or other waste products into the environment.

There is an inherent risk that MLPs may incur environmental costs and liabilities due to the nature of their businesses and the substances they handle. For example, an accidental release from wells or gathering pipelines could subject them to substantial liabilities for environmental cleanup and restoration costs, claims made by neighboring landowners and other third parties for personal injury and property damage, and fines or penalties for related violations of environmental laws or regulations. Moreover, the possibility exists that stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could significantly increase the compliance costs of MLPs. For example, hydraulic fracturing, a technique used in the completion of certain oil and gas wells, has become a subject of increasing regulatory scrutiny and may be subject in the future to more stringent, and more costly to comply with, requirements. Similarly, the implementation of more stringent environmental requirements could significantly increase the cost of any remediation that may become necessary. MLPs may not be able to recover these costs from insurance.

Voluntary initiatives and mandatory controls have been adopted or are being discussed both in the United States and worldwide to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide, a by-product of burning fossil fuels, and methane, the major constituent of natural gas, which many scientists and policymakers believe contribute to global climate change. These measures and future measures could result in increased costs to certain companies in which the Fund may invest to operate and maintain facilities and administer and manage a greenhouse gas emissions program and may reduce demand for fuels that generate greenhouse gases and that are managed or produced by companies in which the Fund may invest.

In the wake of a Supreme Court decision holding that the EPA has some legal authority to deal with climate change under the Clean Air Act, the EPA and the Department of Transportation jointly wrote regulations to cut gasoline use and control greenhouse gas emissions from cars and trucks. The EPA has also taken action to

require certain entities to measure and report greenhouse gas emissions and certain facilities may be required to control emissions of greenhouse gases pursuant to EPA air permitting and other regulatory programs. These measures, and other programs addressing greenhouse gas emissions, could reduce demand for energy or raise prices, which may adversely affect the total return of certain of the Fund's investments.

Commodity Price Risk. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector may be affected by fluctuations in the prices of energy commodities, including, for example, natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil and coal, in the short- and long-term. Fluctuations in energy commodity prices would impact directly companies that own such energy commodities and could impact indirectly companies that engage in transportation, storage, processing, distribution or marketing of such energy commodities. Fluctuations in energy commodity prices can result from changes in general economic conditions or political circumstances (especially of key energy producing and consuming countries); market conditions; weather patterns; domestic production levels; volume of imports; energy conservation; domestic and foreign governmental regulation; international politics; policies of OPEC; taxation; tariffs; and the availability and costs of local, intrastate and interstate transportation methods. The energy sector as a whole may also be impacted by the perception that the performance of energy sector companies is directly linked to commodity prices. High commodity prices may drive further energy conservation efforts, and a slowing economy may adversely impact energy consumption, which may adversely affect the performance of MLPs and other companies operating in the energy sector. Recent economic and market events have fueled concerns regarding potential liquidations of commodity futures and options positions.

Depletion Risk. MLPs and other entities engaged in the exploration, development, management or production of energy commodities face the risk that commodity reserves are depleted over time. Such companies seek to increase their reserves through expansion of their current businesses, acquisitions, further development of their existing sources of energy commodities, exploration of new sources of energy commodities or by entering into long-term contracts for additional reserves; however, there are risks associated with each of these potential strategies. If such companies fail to acquire additional reserves in a cost-effective manner and at a rate at least equal to the rate at which their existing reserves decline, their financial performance may suffer. Additionally, failure to replenish reserves could reduce the amount and affect the tax characterization of the distributions paid by such companies.

Supply and Demand Risk. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector could be adversely affected by reductions in the supply of or demand for energy commodities. The volume of production of energy commodities and the volume of energy commodities available for transportation, storage, processing or distribution could be affected by a variety of factors, including depletion of resources; depressed commodity prices; catastrophic events; labor relations; increased environmental or other governmental regulation; equipment malfunctions and maintenance difficulties; import volumes; international politics, policies of OPEC; and increased competition from alternative energy sources. Alternatively, a decline in demand for energy commodities could result from factors such as adverse economic conditions (especially in key energy-consuming countries); increased taxation; increased environmental or other governmental regulation; increased fuel economy; increased energy conservation or use of alternative energy sources; legislation intended to promote the use of alternative energy sources; or increased commodity prices.

Acquisition Risk. MLP investments owned by the Fund may depend on their ability to make acquisitions that increase adjusted operating surplus per unit in order to increase distributions to unit holders. The ability of such MLPs to make future acquisitions is dependent on their ability to identify suitable targets, negotiate favorable purchase contracts, obtain acceptable financing and outbid competing potential acquirers. To the extent that such MLPs are unable to make future acquisitions, or such future acquisitions fail to increase the adjusted operating surplus per unit, their growth and ability to make distributions to unit holders will be limited. There are risks inherent in any acquisition, including erroneous assumptions regarding revenues, acquisition expenses, operating expenses, cost savings and synergies; assumption of liabilities; indemnification; customer losses; key employee defections; distraction from other business operations; and unanticipated difficulties in operating or integrating new product areas and geographic regions.

Weather Risks. Weather plays a role in the seasonality of some MLPs' cash flows. MLPs in the propane industry, for example, rely on the winter season to generate almost all of their earnings. In an unusually warm winter season, propane MLPs experience decreased demand for their product. Although most MLPs can reasonably predict seasonal weather demand based on normal weather patterns, extreme weather conditions, such as the hurricanes that severely damaged cities along the U.S. Gulf Coast in recent years, demonstrate that no amount of preparation can protect an MLP from the unpredictability of the weather or possible climate change. The damage done by extreme weather also may serve to increase many MLPs' insurance premiums and could adversely affect such companies' financial condition and ability to pay distributions to shareholders.

Cyclical Industry Risk. The energy industry is cyclical and from time to time may experience a shortage of drilling rigs, equipment, supplies, or qualified personnel, or due to significant demand, such services may not be available on commercially reasonable terms. An MLP's ability to successfully and timely complete capital improvements to existing or other capital projects is contingent upon many variables. Should any such efforts be unsuccessful, an MLP could be subject to additional costs and/or the write-off of its investment in the project or improvement. The marketability of oil and gas production depends in large part on the availability, proximity and capacity of pipeline systems owned by third parties. Oil and gas properties are subject to royalty interests, liens and other burdens, encumbrances, easements or restrictions, all of which could impact the production of a particular MLP. Oil and gas MLPs operate in a highly competitive and cyclical industry, with intense price competition. A significant portion of their revenues may depend on a relatively small number of customers, including governmental entities and utilities.

Catastrophic Event Risk. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are subject to many dangers inherent in the production, exploration, management, transportation, processing and distribution of natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil, refined petroleum and petroleum products and other hydrocarbons. These dangers include leaks, fires, explosions, damage to facilities and equipment resulting from natural disasters, inadvertent damage to facilities and equipment (such as those suffered by BP's Deepwater Horizon drilling platform in 2010) and terrorist acts. Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the U.S. government has issued warnings that energy assets, specifically U.S. pipeline infrastructure, may be targeted in future terrorist attacks. These dangers give rise to risks of substantial losses as a result of loss or destruction of commodity reserves; damage to or destruction of property, facilities and equipment; pollution and environmental damage; and personal injury or loss of life. Any occurrence of such catastrophic events could bring about a limitation, suspension or discontinuation of the operations of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector. MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector may not be fully insured against all risks inherent in their business operations and therefore accidents and catastrophic events could adversely affect such companies' financial condition and ability to pay distributions to shareholders.

Industry Specific Risks

MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector are also subject to risks that are specific to the industry they serve.

Pipelines. Pipeline companies are subject to the demand for natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil or refined products in the markets they serve, changes in the availability of products for gathering, transportation, processing or sale due to natural declines in reserves and production in the supply areas serviced by the companies' facilities, sharp decreases in crude oil or natural gas prices that cause producers to curtail production or reduce capital spending for exploration activities, and environmental regulation. Demand for gasoline, which accounts for a substantial portion of refined product transportation, depends on price, prevailing economic conditions in the markets served, and demographic and seasonal factors. Companies that own interstate pipelines that transport natural gas, natural gas liquids, crude oil or refined petroleum products are subject to regulation by FERC with respect to the tariff rates they may charge for transportation services. An adverse determination by FERC with respect to the tariff rates of such companies could have a material adverse effect on their business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and their ability to pay cash distributions or dividends. In addition, FERC has a tax allowance policy, which permits such companies to include in their cost of service an income tax allowance to the extent that their owners have an actual or potential tax liability on the income

generated by them. If FERC's income tax allowance policy were to change in the future to disallow a material portion of the income tax allowance taken by such interstate pipeline companies, it would adversely impact the maximum tariff rates that such companies are permitted to charge for their transportation services, which would in turn adversely affect such companies' financial condition and ability to pay distributions to shareholders.

Gathering and processing. Gathering and processing companies are subject to natural declines in the production of oil and natural gas fields, which utilize their gathering and processing facilities as a way to market their production, prolonged declines in the price of natural gas or crude oil, which curtails drilling activity and therefore production, and declines in the prices of natural gas liquids and refined petroleum products, which cause lower processing margins. In addition, some gathering and processing contracts subject the gathering or processing company to direct commodities price risk.

Midstream. Midstream MLPs and other entities that provide crude oil, refined product and natural gas services are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve which may be impacted by a wide range of factors including fluctuating commodity prices, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events, and economic conditions, among others.

Exploration and production. Exploration, development and production companies are particularly vulnerable to declines in the demand for and prices of crude oil and natural gas. Reductions in prices for crude oil and natural gas can cause a given reservoir to become uneconomic for continued production earlier than it would if prices were higher, resulting in the plugging and abandonment of, and cessation of production from, that reservoir. In addition, lower commodity prices not only reduce revenues but also can result in substantial downward adjustments in reserve estimates. The accuracy of any reserve estimate is a function of the quality of available data, the accuracy of assumptions regarding future commodity prices and future exploration and development costs and engineering and geological interpretations and judgments. Different reserve engineers may make different estimates of reserve quantities and related revenue based on the same data. Actual oil and gas prices, development expenditures and operating expenses will vary from those assumed in reserve estimates, and these variances may be significant. Any significant variance from the assumptions used could result in the actual quantity of reserves and future net cash flow being materially different from those estimated in reserve reports. In addition, results of drilling, testing and production and changes in prices after the date of reserve estimates may result in downward revisions to such estimates. Substantial downward adjustments in reserve estimates could have a material adverse effect on a given exploration and production company's financial position and results of operations. In addition, due to natural declines in reserves and production, exploration and production companies must economically find or acquire and develop additional reserves in order to maintain and grow their revenues and distributions.

Propane. Propane MLPs are subject to earnings variability based upon weather conditions in the markets they serve, fluctuating commodity prices, increased use of alternative fuels, increased governmental or environmental regulation, and accidents or catastrophic events, among others.

Coal. MLP entities and other entities with coal assets are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve, which may be impacted by a wide range of factors including fluctuating commodity prices, the level of their customers' coal stockpiles, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, mining accidents or catastrophic events, health claims and economic conditions, among others. It has become increasingly difficult to obtain and maintain the permits necessary to mine coal. Further, such permits, if obtained, have increasingly contained more stringent, and more difficult and costly to comply with, provisions relating to environmental protection.

Marine shipping. Marine shipping (or tanker companies) are exposed to many of the same risks as other energy companies. In addition, the highly cyclical nature of the tanker industry may lead to volatile changes in charter rates and vessel values, which may adversely affect the earnings of tanker companies in our portfolio. Fluctuations in charter rates and vessel values result from changes in the supply and demand for tanker capacity.

and changes in the supply and demand for oil and oil products. Historically, the tanker markets have been volatile because many conditions and factors can affect the supply and demand for tanker capacity. Changes in demand for transportation of oil over longer distances and supply of tankers to carry that oil may materially affect revenues, profitability and cash flows of tanker companies. The successful operation of vessels in the charter market depends upon, among other things, obtaining profitable spot charters and minimizing time spent waiting for charters and traveling unladen to pick up cargo. The value of tanker vessels may fluctuate and could adversely affect the value of tanker company securities in our portfolio. Declining tanker values could affect the ability of tanker companies to raise cash by limiting their ability to refinance their vessels, thereby adversely impacting tanker company liquidity. Tanker company vessels are at risk of damage or loss because of events such as mechanical failure, collision, human error, war, terrorism, piracy, cargo loss and bad weather. In addition, changing economic, regulatory and political conditions in some countries, including political and military conflicts, have from time to time resulted in attacks on vessels, mining of waterways, piracy, terrorism, labor strikes, boycotts and government requisitioning of vessels. These sorts of events could interfere with shipping lanes and result in market disruptions and a significant loss of tanker company earnings.

Delay in Use of Proceeds Risk

Although the Fund currently intends to invest the proceeds from any sale of the securities offered hereby as soon as practicable following the completion of any offering under this Prospectus, such investments may be delayed if suitable investments are unavailable at the time. The trading market and volumes for securities of MLPs may at times be less liquid than the market for other securities. Prior to the time the proceeds of any offering under this Prospectus are invested, such proceeds may be invested in short-term money market instruments and U.S. government securities, pending investment in securities of MLPs or energy companies. Income received by the Fund from these securities would subject the Fund to corporate tax before any distributions to security holders. As a result, the return and yield on the securities for the period immediately following any offering pursuant to this Prospectus and related Prospectus Supplement may be lower than when the Fund is fully invested in accordance with its investment objective and policies. See *Use of Proceeds*.

Interest Rate Risk

Rising interest rates could increase the costs of capital thereby increasing operating costs and reducing the ability of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector to carry out acquisitions or expansions in a cost-effective manner. As a result, rising interest rates could negatively affect the financial performance of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector. Rising interest rates may also impact the price of the securities of MLPs and other entities operating in the energy sector as the yields on alternative investments increase. During periods of declining interest rates, the market price of fixed income securities generally rises. Conversely, during periods of rising interest rates, the market price of such securities generally declines.

Inflation/Deflation Risk

Inflation risk is the risk that the value of certain assets or income from the Fund's investments will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Stock and distributions on the Common Stock can decline. In addition, during any periods of rising inflation, the dividend rates or borrowing costs associated with the Fund's use of leverage would likely increase, which would tend to further reduce returns to Common Stockholders. Deflation risk is the risk that prices throughout the economy decline over time—the opposite of inflation. Deflation may have an adverse effect on the creditworthiness of issuers and may make issuer defaults more likely, which may result in a decline in the value of the Fund's portfolio.

Liquidity Risk

Although the equity securities of the MLPs in which the Fund invests generally trade on major stock exchanges, certain securities owned by the Fund may trade less frequently, particularly those of MLPs and other issuers with smaller capitalizations. Securities with limited trading volumes may display volatile or erratic price movements. Also, the Fund may be one of the largest investors in certain sub-sectors of the energy or natural resource sectors. Thus, it may be more difficult for the Fund to buy and sell significant amounts of such

securities without an unfavorable impact on prevailing market prices. Larger purchases or sales of these securities by the Fund in a short period of time may cause abnormal movements in the market price of these securities. As a result, these securities may be difficult to dispose of at a fair price at the times when ClearBridge believe it is desirable to do so.

Natural Resources Sector Risks

The natural resources sector includes companies principally engaged in owning or developing non-energy natural resources (including timber and minerals) and industrial materials, or supplying goods or services to such companies. The Fund's investments in MLPs and other entities operating in the natural resources sector will be subject to the risk that prices of these securities may fluctuate widely in response to the level and volatility of commodity prices; exchange rates; import controls; domestic and global competition; environmental regulation and liability for environmental damage; mandated expenditures for safety or pollution control; the success of exploration projects; depletion of resources; tax policies; and other governmental regulation. Investments in the natural resources sector can be significantly affected by changes in the supply of or demand for various natural resources. The value of investments in the natural resources sector may be adversely affected by a change in inflation.

Small Capitalization Risk

The Fund may invest in securities of MLPs and other issuers that have comparatively smaller capitalizations relative to issuers whose securities are included in major benchmark indexes, which presents unique investment risks. These companies often have limited product lines, markets, distribution channels or financial resources, and the management of such companies may be dependent upon one or a few key people. The market movements of equity securities issued by MLPs with smaller capitalizations may be more abrupt or erratic than the market movements of equity securities of larger, more established companies or the stock market in general. Historically, smaller capitalization companies have sometimes gone through extended periods when they did not perform as well as larger companies. In addition, equity securities of smaller capitalization companies generally are less liquid than those of larger companies. This means that the Fund could have greater difficulty selling such securities at the time and price that the Fund would like.

Competition Risk

A number of alternatives to us as vehicles for investment in a portfolio of energy MLPs and their affiliates currently exist, including other publicly traded investment companies, structured notes and private funds. In addition, recent tax law changes have increased the ability of regulated investment companies or other institutions to invest in MLPs. These competitive conditions may adversely impact our ability to meet our investment objective, which in turn could adversely impact our ability to make distributions.

Restricted Securities Risk

The Fund may invest up to 30% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities. The term "restricted securities" refers to securities that are unregistered, held by control persons of the issuer or are subject to contractual restrictions on their resale. Restricted securities are often purchased at a discount from the market price of unrestricted securities of the same issuer reflecting the fact that such securities may not be readily marketable without some time delay. Such securities are often more difficult to value and the sale of such securities often requires more time and results in higher brokerage charges or dealer discounts and other selling expenses than does the sale of liquid securities trading on national securities exchanges or in the over-the-counter markets. Contractual restrictions on the resale of securities result from negotiations between the issuer and purchaser of such securities and therefore vary substantially in length and scope. To dispose of a restricted security that the Fund has a contractual right to sell, the Fund may first be required to cause the security to be registered. A considerable period may elapse between a decision to sell the securities and the time when the Fund would be permitted to sell, during which time the Fund would bear market risks.

Cash Flow Risk

The Fund expects that a substantial portion of the cash flow it receives will be derived from its investments in equity securities of MLPs. The amount and tax characterization of cash available for distribution by an MLP

depends upon the amount of cash generated by such entity's operations. Cash available for distribution by MLPs will vary widely from quarter to quarter and is affected by various factors affecting the entity's operations. In addition to the risks described herein, operating costs, capital expenditures, acquisition costs, construction costs, exploration costs and borrowing costs may reduce the amount of cash that an MLP has available for distribution in a given period.

Capital Market Risk

Global financial markets and economic conditions have been, and continue to be, volatile due to a variety of factors, including significant write-offs in the financial services sector. As a result, the cost of raising capital in the debt and equity capital markets has increased substantially while the ability to raise capital from those markets has diminished significantly. In particular, as a result of concerns about the general stability of financial markets and specifically the solvency of lending counterparties, the cost of raising capital from the credit markets generally has increased as many lenders and institutional investors have increased interest rates, enacted tighter lending standards, refused to refinance debt on existing terms or at all and reduced, or in some cases ceased to provide, funding to borrowers. In addition, lending counterparties under existing revolving credit facilities and other debt instruments may be unwilling or unable to meet their funding obligations. Due to these factors, MLPs may be unable to obtain new debt or equity financing on acceptable terms or at all. If funding is not available when needed, or is available only on unfavorable terms, MLPs may not be able to meet their obligations as they come due. Moreover, without adequate funding, MLPs may be unable to execute their growth strategies, complete future acquisitions, take advantage of other business opportunities or respond to competitive pressures, any of which could have a material adverse effect on their revenues and results of operations.

Valuation Risk

Market prices generally are unavailable for some of the Fund's investments, including MLP subordinated units, direct ownership of general partner or managing member interests and restricted or unregistered securities of certain MLPs and private companies. The values of such securities are determined by fair valuations determined by the Board of Directors or its designee in accordance with procedures governing the valuation of portfolio securities adopted by the Board of Directors. Proper valuation of such securities may require more reliance on the judgment of ClearBridge than valuation of securities for which an active trading market exists. As a limited partner in the MLPs, the Fund includes its allocable share of the MLP's taxable income in computing its own taxable income. Deferred income taxes in the financial statements of the Fund reflect (i) taxes on unrealized gains/losses, which are attributable to the temporary difference between fair market value and the cost basis of the Fund's assets for financial reporting purposes, (ii) the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amount and the cost basis of such assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes and (iii) the net tax benefit of accumulated net operating losses. To the extent the Fund has a deferred tax asset, consideration is given as to whether or not a valuation allowance is required. The need to establish a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets is assessed periodically by the Fund based on the criterion established by ASC Topic 740 that it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. In the assessment for a valuation allowance, consideration is given to all positive and negative evidence related to the realization of the deferred tax asset. This assessment considers, among other matters, the nature, frequency and severity of current and cumulative losses, forecasts of future profitability (which are highly dependent on future MLP operating results), the duration of statutory carryforward periods and the associated risk that operating loss carryforwards may expire unused.

The Fund may rely to some extent on information provided by the MLPs, which may not necessarily be timely, to estimate taxable income allocable to the MLP units held in the portfolio and to estimate the associated deferred tax asset or liability. Such estimates are made in good faith. From time to time, as new information becomes available, the Fund modifies its estimates or assumptions regarding the deferred tax asset or liability.

Deferred tax assets may constitute a relatively high percentage of the Fund's net asset value. Any valuation allowance required against such deferred tax assets or future adjustments to a valuation allowance may reduce the Fund's deferred tax assets and could have a material impact on the Fund's net asset value and results of operations in the period the valuation allowance is recorded or adjusted.

Royalty Trust Risk

Royalty trusts are exposed to many of the same risks as other MLPs. In addition, the value of the equity securities of the royalty trusts in which the Fund invests may fluctuate in accordance with changes in the financial condition of those royalty trusts, the condition of equity markets generally, commodity prices, and other factors. Distributions on royalty trusts in which the Fund may invest will depend upon the declaration of distributions from the constituent royalty trusts, but there can be no assurance that those royalty trusts will pay distributions on their securities. Typically royalty trusts own the rights to royalties on the production and sales of a natural resource, including oil, gas, minerals and timber. As these deplete, production and cash flows steadily decline, which may decrease distributions. The declaration of such distributions generally depends upon various factors, including the operating performance and financial condition of the royalty trust and general economic conditions.

In many circumstances, the royalty trusts in which the Fund may invest may have limited operating histories. The value of royalty trust securities in which the Fund invests are influenced by factors that are not within the Fund's control, including the financial performance of the respective issuers, interest rates, exchange rates and commodity prices (which will vary and are determined by supply and demand factors including weather and general economic and political conditions), the hedging policies employed by such issuers, issues relating to the regulation of the energy industry and operational risks relating to the energy industry.

Market Discount from Net Asset Value Risk

Our Common Stock has traded both at a premium and at a discount to our net asset value. The last reported sale price, as of October 28, 2013 was \$22.53 per share. Our net asset value per share and percentage discount to net asset value per share of our Common Stock as of October 28, 2013 were \$22.83 and 1.31%, respectively. There is no assurance that this premium will continue after the date of this Prospectus or that our Common Stock will not again trade at a discount. Shares of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their net asset value. This characteristic is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that our net asset value could decrease as a result of our investment activities and may be greater for investors expecting to sell their shares in a relatively short period following completion of any offering under this Prospectus. Although the value of our net assets is generally considered by market participants in determining whether to purchase or sell shares, whether investors will realize gains or losses upon the sale of our Common Stock depends upon whether the market price of our Common Stock at the time of sale is above or below the investor's purchase price for our Common Stock. Because the market price of our Common Stock is affected by factors such as net asset value, dividend or distribution levels (which are dependent, in part, on expenses), supply of and demand for our Common Stock, stability of distributions, trading volume of our Common Stock, general market and economic conditions, and other factors beyond our control, the Fund cannot predict whether the Common Stock will trade at, below or above net asset value or at, below or above the offering price. The Fund's Common Stock is designed primarily for long term investors and you should not view the Fund as a vehicle for trading purposes.

Dilution Risk

The voting power of current Common Stockholders will be diluted to the extent that current Common Stockholders do not purchase Common Stock in any future offerings of Common Stock or do not purchase sufficient Common Stock to maintain their percentage interest. If the Fund is unable to invest the proceeds of such offerings as intended, the Fund's per share distributions may decrease and the Fund may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned. See "Description of Shares."

Below Investment Grade (High Yield or Junk Bond) Securities Risk

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in fixed income securities of below investment grade quality. Fixed income securities rated below investment grade are commonly referred to as "high yield" securities or "junk bonds" and are regarded as having predominantly speculative characteristics with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligations and involve major risk exposure to adverse conditions. Fixed income securities rated as low as C by Moody's, CCC

or lower by S&P or CC or lower by Fitch are considered to have extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing, to have a current identifiable vulnerability to default, to be unlikely to have the capacity to pay interest and repay principal when due in the event of adverse business, financial or economic conditions and/or to be in default or not current in the payment of interest or principal. Ratings may not accurately reflect the actual credit risk associated with a corporate security.

Fixed income securities rated below investment grade generally offer a higher current yield than that available from higher grade issues, but typically involve greater risk. These securities are especially sensitive to adverse changes in general economic conditions, to changes in the financial condition of their issuers and to price fluctuation in response to changes in interest rates. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates, issuers of below investment grade instruments may experience financial stress that could adversely affect their ability to make payments of principal and interest and increase the possibility of default. The secondary market for high yield securities may not be as liquid as the secondary market for more highly rated securities, a factor which may have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to dispose of a particular security. There are fewer dealers in the market for high yield securities than for investment grade obligations. The prices quoted by different dealers may vary significantly, and the spread between the bid and ask price is generally much larger for high yield securities than for higher quality instruments. Under adverse market or economic conditions, the secondary market for high yield securities could contract further, independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer, and these securities may become illiquid. In addition, adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may also decrease the values and liquidity of below investment grade securities, especially in a market characterized by a low volume of trading.

Default, or the market's perception that an issuer is likely to default, could reduce the value and liquidity of securities held by the Fund, thereby reducing the value of your investment in the Fund's securities. In addition, default may cause the Fund to incur expenses in seeking recovery of principal or interest on its portfolio holdings. In any reorganization or liquidation proceeding relating to a portfolio company, the Fund may lose its entire investment or may be required to accept cash or securities with a value less than its original investment. Among the risks inherent in investments in a troubled entity is the fact that it frequently may be difficult to obtain information as to the true financial condition of such issuer. ClearBridge's judgment about the credit quality of an issuer and the relative value of its securities may prove to be wrong. Investments in below investment grade securities may present special tax issues for the Fund to the extent that the issuers of these securities default on their obligations pertaining thereto, and the federal income tax consequences to the Fund as a holder of such distressed securities may not be clear.

Foreign Securities and Emerging Markets Risk

A fund that invests in foreign (non-U.S.) securities may experience more rapid and extreme changes in value than a fund that invests exclusively in securities of U.S. companies. The securities markets of many foreign countries are relatively small, with a limited number of companies representing a small number of industries. Investments in foreign securities (including those denominated in U.S. dollars) are subject to economic and political developments in the countries and regions where the issuers operate or are domiciled, or where the securities are traded, such as changes in economic or monetary policies. Values may also be affected by restrictions on receiving the investment proceeds from a foreign country. Less information may be publicly available about foreign companies than about U.S. companies. Foreign companies are generally not subject to the same accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards as are U.S. companies. In addition, the Fund's investments in foreign securities may be subject to the risk of nationalization or expropriation of assets, imposition of currency exchange controls or restrictions on the repatriation of foreign currency, confiscatory taxation, political or financial instability and adverse diplomatic developments. In addition, there may be difficulty in obtaining or enforcing a court judgment abroad. Dividends or interest on, or proceeds from the sale of, foreign securities may be subject to non-U.S. withholding taxes, and special U.S. tax considerations may apply.

The risks of foreign investment are greater for investments in emerging markets. The Fund considers a country to be an emerging market country if, at the time of investment, it is represented in the J.P. Morgan

Emerging Markets Bond Index Global or categorized by the World Bank in its annual categorization as middle or low-income Emerging market countries typically have economic and political systems that are less fully developed, and that can be expected to be less stable, than those of more advanced countries. Low trading volumes may result in a lack of liquidity and in price volatility. Emerging market countries may have policies that restrict investment by foreigners, that require governmental approval prior to investments by foreign persons, or that prevent foreign investors from withdrawing their money at will. An investment in emerging market securities should be considered speculative.

Currency Risk

If the Fund invests directly in securities that trade in, and receive revenues in, foreign (non-U.S.) currencies, it will be subject to the risk that those currencies will decline in value relative to the U.S. dollar. Currency rates in foreign countries may fluctuate significantly over short periods of time for a number of reasons, including changes in interest rates, intervention (or the failure to intervene) by U.S. or foreign governments, central banks or supranational entities such as the International Monetary Fund, or the imposition of currency controls or other political developments in the United States or abroad. As a result, the Fund's investments in foreign currency denominated securities may reduce the returns of the Fund.

Leverage Risk

As of May 31, 2013, we had outstanding senior secured notes and a revolving credit facility with a financial institution in place under which we had Borrowings representing approximately 23.0% of our Managed Assets. Under current market conditions, the Fund intends to continue to utilize leverage principally through Borrowings in an amount up to 20-25% of its Managed Assets. In the future the Fund may elect to utilize leverage in an amount up to 33 1/3% of the Fund's total assets through Borrowings and 50% of the Fund's total assets through the issuance of Preferred Stock. Leverage may result in greater volatility of the net asset value and market price of the Common Stock because changes in the value of the Fund's portfolio investments, including investments purchased with the proceeds from Borrowings or the issuance of Preferred Stock, if any, are borne entirely by Common Stockholders. Common Stock income may fall if the interest rate on Borrowings or the dividend rate on Preferred Stock rises, and may fluctuate as the interest rate on Borrowings or the dividend rate on Preferred Stock varies. The Fund's use of leverage will result in increased operating costs. Thus, to the extent that the then-current cost of any leverage, together with other related expenses, approaches the net return on the Fund's investment portfolio, the benefit of leverage to Common Stockholders will be reduced, and if the then-current cost of any leverage together with related expenses were to exceed the net return on the Fund's portfolio, the Fund's leveraged capital structure would result in a lower rate of return to Common Stockholders than if the Fund were not so leveraged. There can be no assurance that the Fund's leveraging strategy will be successful.

During periods when the Fund is using leverage through Borrowings or the issuance of Preferred Stock, the fees paid to LMPFA and ClearBridge for advisory services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be calculated on the basis of the Fund's Managed Assets, which includes the amount of Borrowings and any assets attributable to the issuance of Preferred Stock. This means that LMPFA and ClearBridge may have a financial incentive to increase the Fund's use of leverage.

Any decline in the net asset value of the Fund will be borne entirely by the Common Stockholders. Therefore, if the market value of the Fund's portfolio declines, the Fund's use of leverage will result in a greater decrease in net asset value to Common Stockholders than if the Fund were not leveraged. Such greater net asset value decrease will also tend to cause a greater decline in the market price for the Common Stock.

Certain types of Borrowings, including the Fund's current Borrowings, result in the Fund being subject to covenants relating to asset coverage, credit ratings or portfolio composition or otherwise. In addition, the Fund may be subject to certain restrictions imposed by guidelines of one or more rating agencies which may issue ratings for commercial paper or notes issued by the Fund. Such restrictions may be more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. In addition, the terms of the Fund's current Borrowings also require that the Fund pledge its assets as collateral.

Derivatives Risk

The Fund may utilize a variety of derivative instruments such as interest rate swaps, options contracts, futures contracts, forward contracts, options on futures contracts and indexed securities. Generally, derivatives are financial contracts whose value depends on, or is derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index, and may relate to individual debt or equity instruments, interest rates, currencies or currency exchange rates, commodities, related indexes and other assets. Derivatives are subject to a number of risks described elsewhere in this Prospectus, such as liquidity risk, interest rate risk, credit risk and management risk. Derivatives are also subject to counterparty risk, which is the risk that the other party in the transaction will not fulfill its contractual obligation. Changes in the credit quality of the companies that serve as the Fund's counterparties with respect to its derivative transactions will affect the value of those instruments. By using derivatives that expose the Fund to counterparties, the Fund assumes the risk that its counterparties could experience financial hardships that could call into question their continued ability to perform their obligations. In addition, in the event of the insolvency of a counterparty to a derivative transaction, the derivative transaction would typically be terminated at its fair market value. If the Fund is owed this fair market value in the termination of the derivative transaction and its claim is unsecured, the Fund will be treated as a general creditor of such counterparty, and will not have any claim with respect to the underlying security. As a result, concentrations of such derivatives in any one counterparty would subject the Fund to an additional degree of risk with respect to defaults by such counterparty. Derivatives also involve the risk of mispricing or improper valuation and the risk that changes in the value of a derivative may not correlate perfectly with an underlying asset, interest rate or index. Suitable derivative transactions may not be available in all circumstances and there can be no assurance that the Fund will engage in these transactions to reduce exposure to other risks when that would be beneficial. If the Fund invests in a derivative instrument, it could lose more than the principal amount invested. Changes to the derivatives markets as a result of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and other government regulation may have an adverse effect on the Fund's ability to make use of derivative transactions.

Derivative instruments can be illiquid, may disproportionately increase losses and may have a potentially large impact on Fund performance. See The Fund's Investments Additional Investment Activities Derivatives and Investment Policies and Techniques Securities Derivatives in the SAI.

Short Sales Risk

To the extent the Fund makes use of short sales for investment and/or risk management purposes, the Fund may be subject to risks associated with selling short. Short sales are transactions in which the Fund sells securities or other instruments that the Fund does not own. Short sales expose the Fund to the risk that it will be required to cover its short position at a time when the securities have appreciated in value, thus resulting in a loss to the Fund. The Fund may engage in short sales where it does not own or have the right to acquire the security sold short at no additional cost. The Fund's loss on a short sale theoretically could be unlimited in a case where the Fund is unable, for whatever reason, to close out its short position. In addition, the Fund's short selling strategies may limit its ability to benefit from increases in the markets. If the Fund engages in short sales, it will segregate liquid assets, enter into offsetting transactions or own positions covering its obligations; however, such segregation and cover requirements will not limit or offset losses on related positions. Short selling also involves a form of financial leverage that may exaggerate any losses realized by the Fund. Also, there is the risk that the counterparty to a short sale may fail to honor its contractual terms, causing a loss to the Fund. The Fund will incur transaction costs with any short sales, which will be borne by shareholders. Finally, regulations imposed by the SEC or other regulatory bodies relating to short selling may restrict the Fund's ability to engage in short selling.

Legal and Regulatory Risk

Legal, tax and regulatory changes could occur and may adversely affect the Fund and its ability to pursue its investment strategies and/or increase the costs of implementing such strategies. New (or revised) laws or regulations may be imposed by the CFTC, the SEC, the U.S. Federal Reserve or other banking regulators, other governmental regulatory authorities or self-regulatory organizations that supervise the financial markets that could adversely affect the Fund. In particular, these agencies are empowered to promulgate a variety of new rules

pursuant to recently enacted financial reform legislation in the United States. The Fund also may be adversely affected by changes in the enforcement or interpretation of existing statutes and rules by these governmental regulatory authorities or self-regulatory organizations.

In addition, the securities and futures markets are subject to comprehensive statutes, regulations and margin requirements. The CFTC, the SEC, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, other regulators and self-regulatory organizations and exchanges are authorized under these statutes, regulations and otherwise to take extraordinary actions in the event of market emergencies. The Fund and the Investment Manager have historically been eligible for exemptions from certain regulations. However, there is no assurance that the Fund and LMPFA will continue to be eligible for such exemptions.

The U.S. Government recently enacted legislation that provides for new regulation of the derivatives market, including clearing, margin, reporting, recordkeeping, and registration requirements. Although the CFTC has released final rules relating to clearing, reporting, recordkeeping and registration requirements under the legislation, many of the provisions are subject to further final rule making, and thus its ultimate impact remains unclear. New regulations could, among other things, restrict the Fund's ability to engage in derivatives transactions (for example, by making certain types of derivatives transactions no longer available to the Fund) and/or increase the costs of such derivatives transactions (for example, by increasing margin or capital requirements), and the Fund may be unable to execute its investment strategies as a result. It is unclear how the regulatory changes will affect counterparty risk.

The CFTC and certain futures exchanges have established limits, referred to as position limits, on the maximum net long or net short positions which any person may hold or control in particular options and futures contracts; those position limits may also apply to certain other derivatives positions the Fund may wish to take. All positions owned or controlled by the same person or entity, even if in different accounts, may be aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicable position limits have been exceeded. Thus, even if the Fund does not intend to exceed applicable position limits, it is possible that different clients managed by the Investment Manager and its affiliates may be aggregated for this purpose. Therefore it is possible that the trading decisions of the Investment Manager may have to be modified and that positions held by the Fund may have to be liquidated in order to avoid exceeding such limits. The modification of investment decisions or the elimination of open positions, if it occurs, may adversely affect the performance of the Fund.

The SEC has in the past adopted interim rules requiring reporting of all short positions above a certain de minimis threshold and may adopt rules requiring monthly public disclosure in the future. In addition, other non-U.S. jurisdictions where the Fund may trade have adopted reporting requirements. If the Fund's short positions or its strategy become generally known, it could have a significant effect on ClearBridge's ability to implement its investment strategy. In particular, it would make it more likely that other investors could cause a short squeeze in the securities held short by the Fund forcing the Fund to cover its positions at a loss. Such reporting requirements also may limit the Investment Manager's ability to access management and other personnel at certain companies where ClearBridge seeks to take a short position. In addition, if other investors engage in copycat behavior by taking positions in the same issuers as the Fund, the cost of borrowing securities to sell short could increase drastically and the availability of such securities to the Fund could decrease drastically. Such events could make the Fund unable to execute its investment strategy. In addition, the SEC and other regulatory and self-regulatory authorities have implemented various rules and may adopt additional rules in the future that may impact those engaging in short selling activity. If additional rules were adopted regarding short sales, they could restrict the Fund's ability to engage in short sales in certain circumstances, and the Fund may be unable to execute its investment strategy as a result.

The SEC and regulatory authorities in other jurisdictions may adopt (and in certain cases, have adopted) bans on short sales of certain securities in response to market events. Bans on short selling may make it impossible for the Fund to execute certain investment strategies and may have a material adverse effect on the Fund's ability to generate returns.

Counterparty Risk

The Fund will be subject to credit risk with respect to the counterparties to the derivative contracts (whether a clearing corporation in the case of exchange-traded instruments or another third party in the case of over-the-counter instruments) and other instruments entered into directly by the Fund or held by special purpose or structured vehicles in which the Fund invests. If a counterparty becomes bankrupt or otherwise fails to perform its obligations under a derivative contract due to financial difficulties, the Fund may experience significant delays in obtaining any recovery under the derivative contract in a dissolution, assignment for the benefit of creditors, liquidation, winding-up, bankruptcy, or other analogous proceeding. In addition, in the event of the insolvency of a counterparty to a derivative transaction, the derivative transaction would typically be terminated at its fair market value. If the Fund is owed this fair market value in the termination of the derivative transaction and its claim is unsecured, the Fund will be treated as a general creditor of such counterparty, and will not have any claim with respect to the underlying security. The Fund may obtain only a limited recovery or may obtain no recovery in such circumstances.

Counterparty risk with respect to certain exchange-traded and over-the-counter derivatives may be further complicated by recently enacted U.S. financial reform legislation. See [Legal and Regulatory Risk](#) for more information.

Privately Held Company Risk

Privately held companies are not subject to SEC reporting requirements, are not required to maintain their accounting records in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and are not required to maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting. As a result, ClearBridge may not have timely or accurate information about the business, financial condition and results of operations of the privately held companies in which the Fund invests.

Debt Securities Risks

Debt securities in which the Fund invests are subject to many of the risks described elsewhere in this section. In addition, they are subject to credit risk, interest rate risk, and, depending on their quality, other special risks. An issuer of a debt security may be unable to make interest payments and repay principal. The Fund could lose money if the issuer of a debt obligation is, or is perceived to be, unable or unwilling to make timely principal and/or interest payments, or to otherwise honor its obligations. The downgrade of a security by rating agencies may further decrease its value. Certain debt instruments, particularly below investment grade securities, may contain call or redemption provisions which would allow the issuer thereof to prepay principal prior to the debt instrument's stated maturity. This is known as prepayment risk. Prepayment risk is greater during a falling interest rate environment as issuers can reduce their cost of capital by refinancing higher yielding debt instruments with lower yielding debt instruments. An issuer may also elect to refinance its debt instruments with lower yielding debt instruments if the credit standing of the issuer improves. To the extent debt securities in its portfolio are called or redeemed, the Fund may be forced to reinvest in lower yielding securities. Debt securities have reinvestment risk, which is the risk that income from the Fund's portfolio will decline if and when the Fund invests the proceeds from matured, traded or called fixed income instruments at market interest rates that are below the portfolio's current earnings rate. A decline in income could affect the Fund's Common Stock price or its overall return.

Redenomination Risk

Continuing uncertainty as to the status of the euro and the EMU has created significant volatility in currency and financial markets generally. Any partial or complete dissolution of the EMU could have significant adverse effects on currency and financial markets, and on the values of the Fund's portfolio investments. If one or more EMU countries were to stop using the euro as its primary currency, the Fund's investments in such countries may be redenominated into a different or newly adopted currency. As a result, the value of those investments could decline significantly and unpredictably. In addition, securities or other investments that are redenominated may be subject to foreign currency risk, liquidity risk and valuation risk to a greater extent than similar investments currently denominated in euros. To the extent a currency used for redenomination purposes is not specified in

respect of certain EMU-related investments, or should the euro cease to be used entirely, the currency in which such investments are denominated may be unclear, making such investments particularly difficult to value or dispose of. The Fund may incur additional expenses to the extent it is required to seek judicial or other clarification of the denomination or value of such securities.

Management Risk and Reliance on Key Personnel

The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed investment portfolio. ClearBridge and each individual portfolio manager may not be successful in selecting the best performing securities or investment techniques, and the Fund's performance may lag behind that of similar funds. The Fund depends upon the diligence and skill of ClearBridge's portfolio managers, who evaluate, negotiate, structure and monitor its investments. These individuals do not have long-term employment contracts with ClearBridge, although they do have equity interests and other financial incentives to remain with ClearBridge. The Fund also depends on the senior management of LMPFA, and the departure of any of the senior management of LMPFA could have a material adverse effect on the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk

LMPFA, ClearBridge and the portfolio managers have interests which may conflict with the interests of the Fund. In particular, LMPFA also manages, and ClearBridge serves as subadviser to, other closed-end investment companies listed on the NYSE that have investment objectives and investment strategies that are substantially similar to the Fund. Further, LMPFA and ClearBridge may at some time in the future manage and/or advise other investment funds or accounts with the same investment objective and strategies as the Fund. As a result, LMPFA, ClearBridge and the Fund's portfolio managers may devote unequal time and attention to the management of the Fund and those other funds and accounts, and may not be able to formulate as complete a strategy or identify equally attractive investment opportunities as might be the case if they were to devote substantially more attention to the management of the Fund. LMPFA, ClearBridge and the Fund's portfolio managers may identify a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for multiple funds and accounts, and the opportunity may be allocated among these several funds and accounts, which may limit the Fund's ability to take full advantage of the investment opportunity. Additionally, transaction orders may be aggregated for multiple accounts for purpose of execution, which may cause the price or brokerage costs to be less favorable to the Fund than if similar transactions were not being executed concurrently for other accounts. At times, a portfolio manager may determine that an investment opportunity may be appropriate for only some of the funds and accounts for which he or she exercises investment responsibility, or may decide that certain of the funds and accounts should take differing positions with respect to a particular security. In these cases, the portfolio manager may place separate transactions for one or more funds or accounts which may affect the market price of the security or the execution of the transaction, or both, to the detriment or benefit of one or more other funds and accounts. For example, a portfolio manager may determine that it would be in the interest of another account to sell a security that the Fund holds, potentially resulting in a decrease in the market value of the security held by the Fund.

The portfolio managers may also engage in cross trades between funds and accounts, may select brokers or dealers to execute securities transactions based in part on brokerage and research services provided to LMPFA or ClearBridge which may not benefit all funds and accounts equally and may receive different amounts of financial or other benefits for managing different funds and accounts. Finally, LMPFA or its affiliates may provide more services to some types of funds and accounts than others.

There is no guarantee that the policies and procedures adopted by LMPFA, ClearBridge and the Fund will be able to identify or mitigate the conflicts of interest that arise between the Fund and any other investment funds or accounts that LMPFA and/or ClearBridge may manage or advise from time to time. For further information on potential conflicts of interest, see "Portfolio Managers' Potential Conflicts of Interest" in the SAI.

Market Disruption and Geopolitical Risk

The aftermath of the war in Iraq, instability in Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Middle East and terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world may result in market volatility, may have long-term effects on the U.S. and worldwide financial markets and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and

worldwide. The Fund does not know how long the securities markets may be affected by these events and cannot predict the effects of these events or similar events in the future on the U.S. economy and securities markets. The wars and occupation, terrorism and related geopolitical risks have led, and may in the future lead, to increased short-term market volatility and may have adverse long-term effects on U.S. and world economies and markets generally. Those events also could have an acute effect on individual issuers or related groups of issuers. These risks also could adversely affect individual issuers and securities markets, interest rates, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation, deflation and other factors relating to the Fund's investments and the market value and net asset value of the Common Stock.

Portfolio Contents

The Fund's annual portfolio turnover rate may vary greatly from year to year. A higher portfolio turnover rate results in correspondingly greater brokerage commissions and other transactional expenses that are borne by the Fund. High portfolio turnover may result in the Fund's recognition of gains that will be taxable to the Fund. A high portfolio turnover may also increase the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, resulting in a greater portion of the Fund's distributions being treated as a dividend to the Common Stockholders.

Government Intervention in Financial Markets Risk

The recent instability in the financial markets has led the U.S. government and foreign governments to take a number of unprecedented actions designed to support certain financial institutions and segments of the financial markets that have experienced extreme volatility, and in some cases a lack of liquidity. U.S. federal and state governments and foreign governments, their regulatory agencies or self-regulatory organizations may take additional actions that affect the regulation of the securities in which the Fund invests, or the issuers of such securities, in ways that are unforeseeable. Issuers of corporate fixed income securities might seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. Such legislation or regulation could limit or preclude the Fund's ability to achieve its investment objective. ClearBridge monitors developments and seeks to manage the Fund's portfolio in a manner consistent with achieving the Fund's investment objective, but there can be no assurance that it will be successful in doing so.

Temporary Defensive Strategies Risk

When ClearBridge anticipates unusual market or other conditions, the Fund may temporarily depart from its primary investment strategy as a defensive measure and invest all or a portion of its assets in cash, obligations of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities; other investment grade debt securities; investment grade commercial paper; certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances; or any other fixed income securities that ClearBridge considers consistent with this strategy. To the extent that the Fund invests defensively, it may not achieve its investment objective.

Non-Diversification Risk

The Fund is classified as "non-diversified" under the 1940 Act. As a result, it can invest a greater portion of its assets in obligations of a single issuer than a "diversified" fund. The Fund may therefore be more susceptible than a diversified fund to being adversely affected by any single corporate, economic, political or regulatory occurrence. See "The Fund's Investments."

Anti-Takeover Provisions

The Fund's Articles and By-Laws include provisions that could limit the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or convert the Fund to an open-end fund. These provisions could have the effect of depriving Common Stockholders of opportunities to sell their Common Stock at a premium over the then-current market price of the Common Stock.

MANAGEMENT OF THE FUND

Directors and Officers

The overall management of the business and affairs of the Fund is vested in the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors approves all significant agreements between the Fund and persons or companies furnishing services to the Fund. The day-to-day operation of the Fund is delegated to the officers of the Fund, LMPFA and ClearBridge, subject always to the investment objective, restrictions and policies of the Fund and to the general direction of the Board of Directors. Certain Directors and officers of the Fund are affiliated with Legg Mason, the parent corporation of LMPFA and ClearBridge. All of the Fund's executive officers hold similar offices with some or all of the other funds advised by LMPFA.

Investment Manager

Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC, located at 620 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York 10018, serves as the Fund's investment manager. LMPFA is a registered investment adviser and will provide administrative and management services to the Fund. As of September 30, 2013, LMPFA's total assets under management were approximately \$211.5 billion. LMPFA is a wholly owned subsidiary of Legg Mason. Legg Mason is a global asset management firm. As of September 30, 2013, Legg Mason's asset management operation had aggregate assets under management of approximately \$656.0 billion.

Subadviser

ClearBridge Advisors, LLC, located at 620 Eighth Avenue, New York, New York 10018, serves as the Fund's subadviser. ClearBridge, a wholly owned subsidiary of Legg Mason, is a registered investment adviser and will be responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund, subject to the supervision and direction of the Fund's Board of Directors and LMPFA. As of September 30, 2013, ClearBridge's total assets under management were approximately \$77.3 billion.

Investors should be aware that the investments made by the Fund and the results achieved by the Fund at any given time are not expected to be the same as those made by other funds for which LMPFA and ClearBridge acts as investment adviser and subadviser, respectively, including funds with names, investment objectives and policies similar to the Fund.

Investment Management Agreement and Sub-Advisory Agreement

Investment Management Agreement

Under the Fund's investment management agreement with LMPFA, subject to the supervision and direction of the Fund's Board of Directors, LMPFA is delegated the responsibility of managing the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's stated investment objective and policies, making investment decisions for the Fund and placing orders to purchase and sell securities. LMPFA supervises the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio by ClearBridge and provides administrative and management services necessary for the operation of the Fund, such as (1) supervising the overall administration of the Fund, including negotiation of contracts and fees with and the monitoring of performance and billings of the Fund's transfer agent, stockholder servicing agents, custodian and other independent contractors or agents; (2) providing certain compliance, Fund accounting, regulatory reporting and tax reporting services; (3) preparing or participating in the preparation of Board materials, registration statements, proxy statements and reports and other communications to stockholders; (4) maintaining the Fund's existence; and (5) maintaining the registration and qualification of the Fund's shares under federal and (if required) state laws.

LMPFA also provides the office space, facilities, equipment and personnel necessary to perform the following services for the Fund: SEC compliance, including record keeping, reporting requirements and registration statements and proxies; supervision of Fund operations, including coordination of functions of the transfer agent, custodian, accountants, counsel and other parties performing services or operational functions for the Fund; and certain administrative and clerical services, including certain accounting services and maintenance of certain books and records.

The Fund's investment management agreement will continue in effect, unless otherwise terminated, until June 25, 2014 and then will continue from year to year provided such continuance is specifically approved at least annually (a) by the Fund's Board or by a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act) and (b) in either event, by a majority of the Directors of the Fund who are not interested persons of the Fund within the meaning of Section 2(a)(19) of the 1940 Act (the Independent Directors) with such Independent Directors casting votes in person at a meeting called for such purpose. The Fund's investment management agreement provides that LMPFA may render services to others. The Fund's investment management agreement is terminable without penalty on not more than 60 days nor less than 30 days written notice by the Fund when authorized either by a vote of holders of shares representing a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act) or by a vote of a majority of the Fund's Directors, or by LMPFA on not less than 90 days written notice, and will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment. The Fund's investment management agreement provides that neither LMPFA nor its personnel or affiliates shall be liable for any error of judgment or mistake of law or for any loss arising out of any investment or for any act or omission in the execution of security transactions for the Fund, except for willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence or reckless disregard of its or their obligations and duties.

Other than the cash management services it provides for certain equity funds, LMPFA does not provide day-to-day portfolio management services. Rather, portfolio management for the Fund is provided by ClearBridge.

ClearBridge Sub-Advisory Agreement

ClearBridge provides services to the Fund pursuant to a sub-advisory agreement between LMPFA and ClearBridge. Under the sub-advisory agreement, subject to the supervision and direction of the Fund's Board and LMPFA, ClearBridge will manage the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies, make investment decisions for the Fund, place orders to purchase and sell securities, and employ professional portfolio managers and securities analysts who provide research services to the Fund.

The sub-advisory agreement between LMPFA and ClearBridge for the Fund will continue in effect, unless otherwise terminated, until June 25, 2014 and then will continue from year to year provided such continuance is specifically approved at least annually (a) by the Board or by a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act), and (b) in either event, by a majority of the Independent Directors with such Independent Directors casting votes in person at a meeting called for such purpose. The Board or a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act) may terminate the Fund's sub-advisory agreement without penalty, in each case on not more than 60 days nor less than 30 days written notice to ClearBridge. ClearBridge may terminate the sub-advisory agreement on 90 days written notice to the Fund and LMPFA. LMPFA and ClearBridge may terminate the sub-advisory agreement upon their mutual written consent. The sub-advisory agreement will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment.

Advisory Fees

For its services, the Fund pays LMPFA an annual fee, payable monthly, in an amount equal to 1.00% of the Fund's average daily Managed Assets. The Fund's management fee and other expenses are borne by the Common Stockholders.

ClearBridge receives an annual subadvisory fee from LMPFA, payable monthly, in an amount equal to 70% of the management fee paid to LMPFA. No advisory fee is paid by the Fund directly to ClearBridge.

The basis for the Board of Directors' initial approval of the Fund's investment management and sub-advisory agreements will be provided in the Fund's initial stockholder report. The basis for subsequent continuations of the Fund's investment management and sub-advisory agreements will be provided in annual or semi-annual reports to stockholders for the periods during which such continuations occur.

Subadviser Philosophy

The Fund's portfolio managers believe that MLPs offer an attractive opportunity for total return given their typically high cash distributions and the potential for distribution growth and capital appreciation. Over the long term, ClearBridge believes an MLP's total return is generally driven by a combination of both its current

distribution yield and its distribution growth rate. ClearBridge believes the market often inefficiently values MLPs by overemphasizing the importance of current yield and undervaluing the impact of distribution growth.

This inefficiency creates an opportunity to build a portfolio that offers high relative total return. ClearBridge believes that current yields on MLP units remain attractive on both an absolute and relative basis. ClearBridge further believes that MLP distribution rates are poised to continue to grow over the next few years as new infrastructure projects come on line due to increasing U.S. production of oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids.

As tax-efficient partnerships, the types of MLPs in which the Fund intends to invest historically have made high levels of tax-deferred cash distributions to their limited partners and members, although there can be no assurance that they will continue to do so. In choosing MLP investments, the portfolio managers focus on MLPs that offer above-average distribution growth, as these MLPs have historically outperformed MLPs with slower distribution growth. They emphasize energy MLPs with stable, predictable cash flows and limited direct commodity exposure.

Subadviser Investment Process

ClearBridge employs a rigorous, bottom-up research process focused on seeking to find MLPs with attractive, sustainable and predictable distributions. In conducting this analysis, particular attention is paid to the rate at which the MLP has both historically grown and is expected to grow distributions in the future. ClearBridge also looks for MLPs with stable business models, quality balance sheets, a talented and experienced general partner/managing member with a solid track record of management, and valuation of the security. ClearBridge's primary valuation metric in analyzing MLPs is distributable cash flow yield. ClearBridge evaluates MLPs based on their geographic footprints, the markets and types of assets they invest in, their balance sheet strength and their ability to make accretive acquisitions.

ClearBridge places strong emphasis on risk management around its investment process. Risk management considerations are contemplated at both the level of the individual investment and the portfolio as a whole. At the level of the individual investment, the prime risk consideration revolves around the sustainability of the cash distribution and position size. In evaluating the distribution sustainability, the portfolio managers utilize balance sheet analysis and financial modeling. At the portfolio level, ClearBridge pays close attention to individual security weightings, sector weightings and allocations, and the amount of leverage employed, as well as macroeconomic and broader market considerations.

ClearBridge will evaluate the Fund's current individual investments on an on-going basis to ensure they meet the Fund's investment objective, strategies and risk management profile. When an individual security, in ClearBridge's assessment, no longer offers attractive distribution growth, stable and predictable cash flows, limited direct commodity exposure, or a strong management team, the Fund may sell the security. In addition, the Fund may also sell securities in instances where more attractive investments, based on ClearBridge's assessment of risk-adjusted total return, become available to the Fund.

Investment Management Team

Set forth below is information regarding the team of professionals at ClearBridge primarily responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Fund.

Name, Address and Title
Richard A. Freeman

Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years
Senior Portfolio Manager and Managing Director of ClearBridge, was appointed to those positions in 2005 in connection with the Legg Mason/ Citigroup transaction. Previously, Mr. Freeman was a Managing Director of Citigroup Asset Management and served as a Senior Portfolio Manager of Smith Barney Asset Management. He joined the predecessor of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (CGM) in 1983.

Name, Address and Title

Michael Clarfeld, CFA

Principal Occupation(s) During Past 5 Years

Managing Director and Portfolio Manager of ClearBridge, has been with ClearBridge since 2006. Prior to joining ClearBridge, Mr. Clarfeld was an equity analyst with Hygrove Partners, LLC and a financial analyst with Goldman Sachs.

Chris Eades

Managing Director and Portfolio Manager, Director of Research, Senior Research Analyst for Energy joined ClearBridge in 2006 as a senior research analyst for energy and was named co-director of research in 2009. Prior to joining ClearBridge, Mr. Eades served as an energy analyst and portfolio manager at Saranac Capital from 2002 to 2006. Prior to that, Chris served as an analyst covering energy exploration and production companies for Simmons & Company from 2001 to 2002, and was an energy analyst at both UBS Warburg from 1995 to 2001 and at NatWest Securities from 1992 to 1995.

Peter Vanderlee, CFA

Managing Director and Portfolio Manager with ClearBridge. He joined ClearBridge or its predecessor in 1999. Mr. Vanderlee has 14 years of investment management experience and 12 years of related industry experience. He is a member of the CFA Institute.

Additional information about the portfolio managers' compensation, other accounts managed by them and other information is provided in the SAI.

Control Persons

A control person is a person who beneficially owns more than 25% of the voting securities of a company. The Fund currently has no control person.

NET ASSET VALUE

The Fund determines the net asset value of its Common Stock on each day the NYSE is open for business, as of the close of the customary trading session (normally 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time), or any earlier closing time that day. The Fund determines the net asset value per share of Common Stock by dividing the value of the Fund's securities, cash and other assets (including interest accrued but not collected) less all its liabilities (including accrued expenses, borrowings and interest payables) by the total number of shares of Common Stock outstanding.

The Fund's securities are valued in accordance with procedures approved by the Board. Under the procedures, equity securities and certain derivative instruments that are traded on an exchange are valued at the closing price or, if that price is unavailable or deemed not representative of market value, the last sale price. Where a security is traded on more than one exchange (as is often the case overseas), the security is generally valued at the price on the exchange considered to be the primary exchange. In the case of securities not traded on an exchange, or if exchange prices are not otherwise available, the prices are typically determined by independent third party pricing services that use a variety of techniques and methodologies.

The valuations for fixed income securities and certain derivative instruments are typically the prices supplied by independent third party pricing services, which may use market prices or broker/dealer quotations or a variety of fair valuation techniques and methodologies. Short-term fixed income securities that will mature in 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost, unless it is determined that using this method would not reflect an investment's fair value.

The valuations of securities traded on foreign markets and certain fixed income securities are generally based on prices determined as of the earlier closing time of the markets on which they primarily trade, unless a significant event has occurred. When the Fund holds securities or other assets that are denominated in a foreign currency, the Fund normally uses the currency exchange rates as of 4:00 p.m. (Eastern time). The Fund uses a fair value model developed by an independent third party pricing service to value foreign equity securities on days when a certain percentage change in the value of a domestic equity security index suggests that the closing prices on foreign exchanges may no longer represent the value of those securities at the time of closing of the NYSE. Foreign markets are open for trading on weekends and other days when the Fund does not price its shares and Common Stockholders cannot trade their Common Stock.

If independent third party pricing services are unable to supply prices for a portfolio investment, or if the prices supplied are deemed to be unreliable, the market price may be determined by using quotations from one or more broker/dealers. When such prices or quotations are not available, or when believed to be unreliable, securities may be priced using fair value procedures approved by the Board of Directors. These procedures permit, among other things, the use of a matrix, formula or other method that takes into consideration market indexes, yield curves and other specific adjustments to determine fair value. The Fund may also use fair value procedures if it is determined that a significant event has occurred between the time at which a market price is determined and the time at which the fund's net asset value is calculated. The effect of using fair value pricing is that the Common Stock's net asset value is subject to the judgment of the Board of Directors or its designee instead of being determined by the market.

As a limited partner in the MLPs, the Fund includes its allocable share of the MLP's taxable income in computing its own taxable income. Deferred income taxes in the financial statements of the Fund will reflect (i) taxes on unrealized gains/losses, which are attributable to the temporary difference between the fair market value and the tax basis of the Fund's assets, (ii) the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amounts of such assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes and (iii) the net tax benefit of accumulated net operating losses. To the extent the Fund has a deferred tax asset, consideration is given as to whether or not a valuation allowance is required. The need to establish a valuation allowance for deferred tax assets is assessed periodically by the Fund based on the criterion established by ASC Topic 740 that it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. In the assessment for a valuation allowance, consideration is given to all positive and negative evidence related to the realization of the deferred tax asset. This assessment considers, among other matters, the nature,

frequency and severity of current and cumulative losses, forecasts of future profitability (which are highly dependent on future MLP cash distributions), the duration of statutory carryforward periods and the associated risk that operating loss carryforwards may expire unused.

The Fund may rely to some extent on information provided by the MLPs, which may not necessarily be timely, to estimate taxable income allocable to the MLP units held in the portfolio and to estimate the associated deferred tax asset or liability. Such estimates are made in good faith. From time to time, as new information becomes available, the Fund will modify its estimates or assumptions regarding the deferred tax asset or liability.

Deferred tax assets may constitute a relatively high percentage of the Fund's net asset value. Any valuation allowance required against such deferred tax assets or future adjustments to a valuation allowance may reduce the Fund's deferred tax assets and could have a material impact on the Fund's net asset value and results of operations in the period the valuation allowance is recorded or adjusted.

DISTRIBUTIONS

We have paid distributions to Common Stockholders every fiscal quarter since inception. The following table sets forth information about distributions we paid to our Common Stockholders, percentage participation by Common Stockholders in our dividend reinvestment program and reinvestments and related issuances of additional shares of Common Stock as a result of such participation (the information in the table is unaudited):

Distribution Payment Date to Common Stockholders	Amount of Distribution Per Share	Percentage of Common Stockholders Electing to Participate in Dividend Reinvestment Program	Amount of Corresponding Reinvestment through Dividend Reinvestment Program	Additional Shares of Common Stock Issued through Dividend Reinvestment Program
August 24, 2012	\$ 0.3250	3%	\$ 364,545	18,987
November 30, 2012	\$ 0.3250	5%	\$ 633,860	33,391
February 22, 2013	\$ 0.3300	7%	\$ 879,520	42,433
May 31, 2013	\$ 0.3300	7%	\$ 872,568	37,766
August 30, 2013	\$ 0.3300	8%	\$ 945,767	43,134

Under normal market conditions, the Fund intends to continue to distribute substantially all of the Fund's distributable cash flow received as cash distributions from MLPs, interest payments received on debt securities owned by the Fund and other payments on securities owned by the Fund, less Fund expenses. The Fund intends to continue to make distributions quarterly.

Unless a Common Stockholder elects to receive distributions in cash (i.e., opt out), all of such Common Stockholder's distributions, including any capital gains distributions on Common Stock, will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of Common Stock under the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

Unless a Common Stockholder elects to receive distributions in cash (i.e., opt-out), all distributions, including any capital gain distributions, on our Common Stock will be automatically reinvested by American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC, as agent for the stockholders (the Plan Agent), in additional shares of Common Stock under the Fund's Dividend Reinvestment Plan (the Plan). A Common Stockholder may elect not to participate in the Plan by contacting the Plan Agent. If a Common Stockholder does not participate, such Common Stockholder will receive all cash distributions paid by check mailed directly to such Common Stockholder by American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC, as dividend paying agent.

If a Common Stockholder participates in the Plan, the number of shares of Common Stock that Common Stockholder will receive will be determined as follows:

(1) If the market price of the Common Stock on the record date (or, if the record date is not a NYSE trading day, the immediately preceding trading day) for determining stockholders eligible to receive the relevant dividend or distribution (the determination date) is equal to or exceeds 98% of the net asset value per share of the Common Stock, the Fund will issue new Common Stock at a price equal to the greater of (a) 98% of the net asset value per share at the close of trading on the NYSE on the determination date or (b) 95% of the market price per share of the Common Stock on the determination date.

(2) If 98% of the net asset value per share of the Common Stock exceeds the market price of the Common Stock on the determination date, the Plan Agent will receive the dividend or distribution in cash and will buy Common Stock in the open market, on the NYSE or elsewhere, for such Common Stockholder's account as soon as practicable commencing on the trading day following the determination date and terminating no later than the earlier of (a) 30 days after the dividend or distribution payment date, or (b) the record date for the next succeeding dividend or distribution to be made to the stockholders; except when necessary to comply with applicable provisions of the federal securities laws. If during this period: (i) the market price rises so that it equals or exceeds 98% of the net asset value per share of the Common Stock at the close of trading on the NYSE on the determination date before the Plan Agent has completed the open market purchases or (ii) if the Plan Agent is unable to invest the full amount eligible to be reinvested in open market purchases, the Plan Agent will cease purchasing Common Stock in the open market and the Fund shall issue the remaining Common Stock at a price per share equal to the greater of (a) 98% of the net asset value per share at the close of trading on the NYSE on the determination date or (b) 95% of the then current market price per share.

Common Stock in a Common Stockholder's account will be held by the Plan Agent in non-certificated form. Any proxy a Common Stockholder receives will include all shares of Common Stock such Common Stockholder has received under the Plan.

A Common Stockholder may withdraw from the Plan (i.e., opt-out) by notifying the Plan Agent in writing at P.O. Box 922, Wall Street Station, New York, NY 10269-0560 or by calling the Plan Agent at 877-366-6441. Such withdrawal will be effective immediately if notice is received by the Plan Agent not less than ten business days prior to any dividend or distribution record date; otherwise such withdrawal will be effective as soon as practicable after the Plan Agent's investment of the most recently declared dividend or distribution on the Common Stock. The Plan may be terminated, amended or supplemented by the Fund upon notice in writing mailed to stockholders at least 30 days prior to the record date for the payment of any dividend or distribution by the Fund for which the termination or amendment is to be effective.

Upon any termination, a Common Stockholder will be sent cash for any fractional share of Common Stock in such Common Stockholder's account. A Common Stockholder may elect to notify the Plan Agent in advance of such termination to have the Plan Agent sell part or all of such Common Stockholder's Common Stock on such Common Stockholder's behalf. A Common Stockholder will be charged a service charge and the Plan Agent is authorized to deduct brokerage charges actually incurred for this transaction from the proceeds.

There is no service charge for reinvestment of a Common Stockholder's dividends or distributions in Common Stock. However, all participants will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred by the

Plan Agent when it makes open market purchases. Because all dividends and distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional shares of Common Stock, this allows a Common Stockholder to add to such Common Stockholder's investment through dollar cost averaging, which may lower the average cost of such Common Stockholder's Common Stock over time. Dollar cost averaging is a technique for lowering the average cost per share over time if the Fund's net asset value declines. While dollar cost averaging has definite advantages, it cannot assure profit or protect against loss in declining markets.

Automatically reinvesting dividends and distributions does not mean that a Common Stockholder does not have to pay income taxes due upon receiving dividends and distributions. Investors will be subject to income tax on amounts reinvested under the Plan. See "Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations" in this Prospectus and the SAI.

The Fund reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan if, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, the change is warranted. There is no direct service charge to participants in the Plan; however, the Fund reserves the right to amend the Plan to include a service charge payable by the participants. Additional information about the Plan and a Common Stockholder's account may be obtained from the Plan Agent at 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11219 or by calling the Plan Agent at 877-366-6441.

DESCRIPTION OF SHARES

Common Stock

As of October 28, 2013, we had approximately 38.3 million shares of Common Stock outstanding. All Common Stock offered pursuant to this Prospectus and any related Prospectus Supplement will be, upon issuance, duly authorized, fully paid and nonassessable, and will have no pre-emptive or conversion rights or rights to cumulative voting. All Common Stock offered pursuant to this Prospectus and any related Prospectus Supplement will be of the same class and will have identical rights, as described below.

The Articles authorize the issuance of 100,000,000 shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share. All shares of Common Stock have equal rights to the payment of dividends and the distribution of assets upon liquidation. The Board of Directors, without stockholder vote, can increase or decrease the aggregate number of shares of Common Stock or the number of shares of stock of any class or series that the Fund has authority to issue and can reclassify any authorized but unissued shares.

The Fund's Common Stock is listed on the NYSE under the trading or ticker symbol is CTR. The Fund intends to hold annual meetings of stockholders so long as the Common Stock is listed on a national securities exchange and such meetings are required as a condition to such listing. The Fund must continue to meet the NYSE requirements in order for the Common Stock to remain listed.

Unlike open-end funds, closed-end funds, like the Fund, do not continuously offer shares and do not provide daily redemptions. Rather, if a stockholder determines to buy additional shares of Common Stock or sell shares of Common Stock already held, the stockholder may do so by trading on the NYSE through a broker or otherwise. Shares of closed-end funds may frequently trade on an exchange at prices lower than net asset value.

The market value of the Common Stock may be influenced by such factors as dividend levels (which are in turn affected by expenses), call protection, dividend stability, portfolio credit quality, net asset value, relative demand for and supply of such Common Stock in the market, general market and economic conditions, and other factors beyond the control of the Fund. The Fund cannot assure you that Common Stock will trade at a price equal to or higher than net asset value in the future. The Fund's Common Stock is designed primarily for long-term investors, and investors in Common Stock should not view the Fund as a vehicle for trading purposes. See Repurchase of Fund Shares.

Each outstanding share of Common Stock entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of Common Stockholders, including the election of Directors. Except as provided with respect to any other class or series, the Common Stockholders will possess the exclusive voting power. There is no cumulative voting in the election of Directors, which means that the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of Common Stock can elect all of the Directors then standing for election, and the holders of the remaining shares of Common Stock will not be able to elect any Directors.

Preferred Stock

The Articles provide that the Fund's Board of Directors may classify and issue Preferred Stock with rights as determined by the Board of Directors, by action of the Board of Directors without the approval of the Common Stockholders. Common Stockholders have no preemptive right to purchase any Preferred Stock that might be issued.

The Fund may elect to issue Preferred Stock as part of its leveraging strategy. The Fund currently has the ability to issue leverage through the issuance of Preferred Stock, representing up to 50% of the Fund's total assets less liabilities and indebtedness of the Fund (other than leverage consisting of Preferred Stock and other senior securities) immediately after the leverage is issued. However, under current market conditions the Fund does not expect to issue Preferred Stock. Although the terms of any Preferred Stock, including dividend rate, liquidation preference and redemption provisions, will be set forth in a separate prospectus and the certificate of designation, the Fund believes that it is likely that the liquidation preference, voting rights and redemption provisions of the Preferred Stock may be similar to those stated below.

Liquidation Preference

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund, the holders of Preferred Stock will be entitled to receive a preferential liquidating distribution, which is expected to equal the original purchase price per Preferred Stock plus accrued and unpaid dividends, whether or not declared, before any distribution of assets is made to Common Stockholders. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the holders of Preferred Stock will not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of assets by the Fund.

Voting Rights

The 1940 Act requires that the holders of any Preferred Stock, voting separately as a single class, have the right to elect at least two Directors at all times. The remaining Directors will be elected by holders of Common Stock and Preferred Stock, voting together as a single class. In addition, subject to the prior rights, if any, of the holders of any other class of senior securities outstanding, the holders of any Preferred Stock have the right to elect a majority of the directors of the Fund at any time that two years of dividends on any Preferred Stock are unpaid. The 1940 Act also requires that, in addition to any approval by the stockholders that might otherwise be required, the approval of the holders of a majority of any outstanding Preferred Stock, voting separately as a class, would be required to: (i) adopt any plan of reorganization that would adversely affect the Preferred Stock and (ii) take any action requiring a vote of security holders under Section 13(a) of the 1940 Act, including, among other things, changes in the Fund's subclassification as a closed-end investment company or changes in its fundamental investment restrictions. See Certain Provisions in the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. As a result of these voting rights, the Fund's ability to take any such actions may be impeded to the extent that there are any shares of Preferred Stock outstanding. The Board of Directors presently intends that, except as otherwise indicated in this Prospectus and except as otherwise required by applicable law or the Articles, holders of Preferred Stock will have equal voting rights with Common Stockholders (one vote per share, unless otherwise required by the 1940 Act) and will vote together with Common Stockholders as a single class.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding Preferred Stock, voting as a separate class, will be required to amend, alter or repeal any of the preferences, rights or powers of holders of Preferred Stock so as to affect materially and adversely such preferences, rights or powers, or to increase or decrease the authorized number of Preferred Stock. The class vote of holders of Preferred Stock described above will in each case be in addition to any other vote required to authorize the action in question.

Redemption, Purchase and Sale of Preferred Stock by the Fund

The terms of any Preferred Stock issued are expected to provide that: (i) shares are redeemable by the Fund in whole or in part at the original purchase price per share plus accrued dividends per share; (ii) the Fund may tender for or purchase Preferred Stock; and (iii) the Fund may subsequently resell any shares so tendered for or purchased. Any redemption or purchase of Preferred Stock by the Fund will reduce any leverage applicable to the Common Stock, while any resale of shares by the Fund will increase that leverage.

The discussion above describes the possible offering of Preferred Stock by the Fund. If the Board of Directors determines to proceed with such an offering, the terms of the Preferred Stock may be the same as, or different from, the terms described above, subject to applicable law and the Fund's Articles. The Board of Directors, without the approval of the Common Stockholders, may authorize an offering of Preferred Stock or may determine not to authorize such an offering, and may fix the terms of the Preferred Stock to be offered.

CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BY-LAWS

The Fund has provisions in its Articles and By-Laws that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund, to cause it to engage in certain transactions or to modify its structure. These provisions could have the effect of depriving stockholders of opportunities to sell their Common Stock at a premium over the then-current market price of the Common Stock. At the Fund's first annual meeting of stockholders, the Board of Directors was divided into three classes, having initial terms of one, two and three years, respectively. At the annual meeting of stockholders in each year thereafter, the term of one class will expire and Directors will be elected to serve in that class for terms of three years. This provision could delay for up to two years the replacement of a majority of the Board of Directors. A Director may be removed from office only for cause and then only by a vote of the holders of at least 75% of the votes entitled to be cast for the election of Directors.

The Fund's By-Laws provide that with respect to any annual or special meeting of the stockholders, only such business shall be conducted as shall have been properly brought before the meeting. To be properly brought before an annual meeting, the business must be specified in the notice of meeting given by or at the direction of the Board of Directors or otherwise properly brought by or at the direction of the Board of Directors or properly brought by a stockholder who is entitled to vote at the meeting and who complied with the advance notice procedures of the By-Laws, and must be a proper subject under applicable law for stockholder action. To be properly brought before a special meeting, the business must be specified in the notice of meeting given by or at the direction of the Board of Directors or otherwise properly brought by or at the direction of the Board of Directors, and must be a proper subject under applicable law for stockholder action.

The affirmative vote of at least 75% of the entire Board of Directors is required to authorize the conversion of the Fund from a closed-end to an open-end investment company. Such conversion also requires the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 75% of the votes entitled to be cast thereon by the stockholders of the Fund unless it is approved by a vote of at least 75% of the Continuing Directors (as defined below), in which event such conversion requires the approval of the holders of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast thereon by the stockholders of the Fund. A Continuing Director is any member of the Board of Directors of the Fund who (i) is not a person or affiliate of a person, other than an investment company advised by LMPFA or any of its affiliates, who enters or proposes to enter into a Business Combination (as defined below) with the Fund (an Interested Party) and (ii) who has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Fund for a period of at least 12 months, or has been a member of the Board of Directors since May 1, 2012, or is a successor of a Continuing Director who is unaffiliated with an Interested Party and is recommended to succeed a Continuing Director by a majority of the Continuing Directors then on the Board of Directors of the Fund. To amend the Articles to change any of the provisions of the first paragraph under this heading, or this paragraph, the Articles require either (i) the affirmative vote of at least 75% of the entire Board of Directors and at least 75% of the votes entitled to be cast by stockholders or (ii) the affirmative vote of 75% of the Continuing Directors and the approval of the holders of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast thereon by stockholders.

The affirmative votes of at least 75% of the entire Board of Directors and the holders of at least (i) 80% of the votes entitled to be cast thereon by the stockholders of the Fund and (ii) in the case of a Business Combination (as defined below), 66²/₃% of the votes entitled to be cast thereon by the stockholders of the Fund other than votes held by an Interested Party who is (or whose affiliate is) a party to a Business Combination (as defined below) or an affiliate or associate of the Interested Party, are required to authorize any of the following transactions:

(i) a merger, consolidation or statutory share exchange of the Fund with or into any other person;

(ii) issuance or transfer by the Fund (in one or a series of transactions in any 12-month period) of any securities of the Fund to any person or entity for cash, securities or other property (or combination thereof) having an aggregate fair market value of \$1,000,000 or more, excluding issuances or transfers of debt securities of the Fund, sales of securities of the Fund in connection with a public offering, issuances of securities of the Fund pursuant to a dividend reinvestment plan adopted by the Fund, issuances of securities

of the Fund upon the exercise of any stock subscription rights distributed by the Fund and portfolio transactions effected by the Fund in the ordinary course of business;

(iii) sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer or other disposition by the Fund (in one or a series of transactions in any 12-month period) to or with any person or entity of any assets of the Fund having an aggregate fair market value of \$1,000,000 or more except for portfolio transactions (including pledges of portfolio securities in connection with borrowings) effected by the Fund in the ordinary course of its business (transactions within clauses (i), (ii) and (iii) above being known individually as a Business Combination);

(iv) the voluntary liquidation or dissolution of the Fund or an amendment to the Articles to terminate the Fund's existence; or

(v) unless the 1940 Act or federal law requires a lesser vote, any stockholder proposal as to specific investment decisions made or to be made with respect to the Fund's assets as to which stockholder approval is required under federal or Maryland law.

However, the stockholder vote described above will not be required with respect to the foregoing transactions (other than those set forth in (v) above) if they are approved by a vote of at least 75% of the Continuing Directors. In that case, if Maryland law requires stockholder approval, the affirmative vote of a majority of votes entitled to be cast thereon shall be required.

The Articles and By-Laws contain provisions the effect of which is to prevent matters, including nominations of Directors, from being considered at a stockholders' meeting where the Fund has not received notice of the matters generally at least 60 but no more than 90 days prior to the first anniversary of the preceding year's annual meeting.

The Fund has provisions in its Articles and By-Laws that authorize the Fund, to the maximum extent permitted by Maryland law, to indemnify any present or former Director or officer from and against any claim or liability to which that person may become subject or which that person may incur by reason of his or her status as a present or former Director or officer of the Fund and to pay or reimburse their reasonable expenses in advance of final disposition of a proceeding. Pursuant to the By-Laws, absent a court determination that an officer or Director seeking indemnification was not liable on the merits or guilty of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his office, the decision by the Fund to indemnify such person will be based upon the reasonable determination of independent counsel or nonparty Independent Directors, after review of the facts, that such officer or Director is not guilty of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his office.

Reference is made to the Articles and By-Laws of the Fund, on file with the SEC, for the full text of these provisions. These provisions could have the effect of depriving stockholders of an opportunity to sell their Common Stock at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Fund in a tender offer or similar transaction. These provisions, however, offer several possible advantages. They may require persons seeking control of the Fund to negotiate with its management regarding the price to be paid for the Common Stock required to obtain such control, they promote continuity and stability and they enhance the Fund's ability to pursue long-term strategies that are consistent with its investment objective.

Maryland Business Combination Act

The Maryland Business Combination Act will not be applicable to the Fund as a closed-end investment company unless and until its Board of Directors adopts a resolution to be subject to the statute, provided that the resolution will not be effective with respect to a business combination with any person who has become an interested stockholder before the time that the resolution is adopted. Under the Maryland Business Combination Act, business combinations between a Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder or an affiliate of an interested stockholder are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder. These business combinations include a merger, consolidation, share

exchange, or, in circumstances specified in the statute, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities. An interested stockholder is defined as:

any person who beneficially owns ten percent or more of the voting power of the corporation's shares; or

an affiliate or associate of the corporation who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of ten percent or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting stock of the corporation.

A person is not an interested stockholder under the statute if the board of directors approved in advance the transaction by which he otherwise would have become an interested stockholder.

After the five-year prohibition, any business combination between the Maryland corporation and an interested stockholder generally must be recommended by the board of directors of the corporation and approved by the affirmative vote of at least:

80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding shares of voting stock of the corporation; and

66²/₃% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting stock of the corporation other than shares held by the interested stockholder with whom or with whose affiliate the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested stockholder.

These super-majority vote requirements do not apply if the corporation's Common Stockholders receive a minimum price, as defined under Maryland law, for their shares in the form of cash or other consideration in the same form as previously paid by the interested stockholder for its shares. The statute permits various exemptions from its provisions, including business combinations that are exempted by the board of directors prior to the time that the interested stockholder becomes an interested stockholder.

The Maryland Business Combination Act may discourage others from trying to acquire control of the Fund and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act

The Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act will not be applicable to the Fund as a closed-end investment company unless and until its Board of Directors adopts a resolution to be subject to the statute, provided that the resolution will not be effective with respect to any person who has become a holder of control shares before the time that the resolution is adopted. The Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act provides that control shares of a Maryland corporation acquired in a control share acquisition have no voting rights except to the extent approved by a vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter. Shares owned by the acquiror, by officers or by directors who are employees of the corporation are excluded from shares entitled to vote on the matter. Control shares are voting shares of stock which, if aggregated with all other shares of stock owned by the acquiror or in respect of which the acquiror is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power (except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquiror to exercise voting power in electing directors within one of the following ranges of voting power:

one-tenth or more but less than one-third,

one-third or more but less than a majority, or

a majority or more of all voting power.

Control shares do not include shares the acquiring person is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained stockholder approval. A control share acquisition means the acquisition of control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

Edgar Filing: ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. - Form N-2/A

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition may compel the board of directors of the corporation to call a special meeting of stockholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. The right to compel the calling of a special meeting is subject to the satisfaction of

certain conditions, including an undertaking to pay the expenses of the meeting. If no request for a meeting is made, the corporation may itself present the question at any stockholders meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquiring person does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the statute, then the corporation may redeem for fair value any or all of the control shares, except those for which voting rights have previously been approved. The right of the corporation to redeem control shares is subject to certain conditions and limitations. Fair value is determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquiror or of any meeting of stockholders at which the voting rights of the shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a stockholders meeting and the acquiror becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other stockholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquiror in the control share acquisition.

The Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act does not apply (a) to shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the corporation is a party to the transaction, or (b) to acquisitions approved or exempted by the charter or by-laws of the corporation.

The Maryland Control Share Acquisition Act may discourage others from trying to acquire control of the Fund and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

REPURCHASE OF FUND SHARES

The Fund is a closed-end investment company, and as such its stockholders do not have the right to cause the Fund to redeem their Common Stock. Instead, liquidity will be provided through trading in the open market. Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 23(c) of the 1940 Act that the Fund may purchase at market prices from time to time shares of its Common Stock in the open market but is under no obligation to do so.

CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The discussion below and disclosure in the SAI provide a summary of certain United States federal income tax considerations relating to the Fund and the purchase, ownership and disposition of our Common Stock as of the date hereof. Except where noted, this summary deals only with Common Stock offered pursuant to this Prospectus and held as a capital asset. This summary does not represent a detailed description of the United States federal income tax consequences applicable to a holder of our Common Stock if such holder is subject to special treatment under the United States federal income tax laws, including if the holder is:

a dealer in securities or currencies;

a financial institution;

a regulated investment company;

a real estate investment trust;

an insurance company;

a tax-exempt organization;

a person holding our Common Stock as part of a hedging, integrated or conversion transaction, a constructive sale or a straddle;

a trader in securities that has elected the mark-to-market method of accounting for its securities;

a person liable for alternative minimum tax;

a partnership or other pass-through entity for United States federal income tax purposes;

a controlled foreign corporation;

a passive foreign investment company;

a U.S. expatriate; or

a U.S. Holder (as defined below) whose functional currency is not the United States dollar.

As used herein, the term "U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of our Common Stock that is for United States federal income tax purposes:

an individual citizen or resident of the United States;

a corporation (or other entity treated as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes) created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia;

an estate the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source; or

a trust if it (1) is subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust or (2) has a valid election in effect under applicable United States Treasury regulations to be treated as a United States person.

As used herein, the term "non-U.S. Holder" means a beneficial owner of our Common Stock that is neither a U.S. Holder nor a partnership (or other entity treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes).

The discussion below is based upon the provisions of the Code, and regulations, rulings and judicial decisions thereunder as of the date hereof, and such authorities may be replaced, revoked or modified, possibly with retroactive effect, so as to result in United States federal income tax consequences different from those discussed below. If a partnership (or other entity treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes) holds our Common Stock, the tax treatment of a partner will generally depend upon the status of the partner and the activities of the partnership. Investors that are partners in a partnership holding our Common Stock should consult their tax advisors.

This summary does not contain a detailed description of all the United States federal income tax consequences applicable to the Fund or to investors in light of their particular circumstances, and does not address the effects of any state, local or non-United States tax laws. **Investors considering the purchase, ownership or disposition of our Common Stock should consult their own tax advisors concerning the United States federal income tax consequences to them in light of their particular situations as well as any consequences arising under the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction.**

Taxation of the Fund

The Fund is treated as a regular corporation, or a C corporation, for United States federal income tax purposes. Accordingly, the Fund generally will be subject to United States federal income tax on its taxable income at the graduated rates applicable to corporations (currently at a maximum rate of 35%). Such taxable income would generally include, among other items, all of the Fund's net income from its investments in the equity securities of MLPs, other types of equity securities, derivatives, debt securities, royalty trusts and foreign securities less Fund expenses. The Fund may be subject to a 20% alternative minimum tax on its alternative minimum taxable income to the extent that the alternative minimum tax exceeds the Fund's regular income tax liability. The Fund's payment of corporate income tax or alternative minimum tax could materially reduce the amount of cash available for the Fund to make distributions on its stock. In addition, distributions to stockholders of the Fund will be taxed under United States federal income tax laws applicable to corporate distributions, and thus the Fund's taxable income will be subject to a double layer of taxation. As a regular corporation, the Fund may also be subject to state income tax or foreign tax by reason of its investments in equity securities of MLPs.

MLP Equity Securities

MLPs are generally characterized as publicly traded partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes because MLPs are typically organized as limited partnerships or limited liability companies that are publicly traded. The Code generally requires all publicly traded partnerships to be treated as corporations for United States federal income tax purposes. If, however, a publicly traded partnership derives at least 90% of its gross income from qualifying sources as described in Section 7704 of the Code, the publicly traded partnership will be treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes. These qualifying sources include interest, dividends, real estate rents, gain from the sale or disposition of real property, income and gain from mineral or natural resources activities, income and gain from the transportation or storage of certain fuels, and, in certain circumstances, income and gain from commodities or futures, forwards and options with respect to commodities. Mineral or natural resources activities include exploration, development, production, processing, mining, refining, marketing and transportation (including pipelines) of oil and gas, minerals, geothermal energy, fertilizer, timber or industrial source carbon dioxide. The Fund intends to invest primarily in MLPs that are taxed as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes, and references in this discussion to MLPs include only MLPs that are so taxed.

When the Fund invests in the equity securities of an MLP, the Fund will be a partner in such MLP. Accordingly, the Fund will be required to include in its taxable income the Fund's allocable share of the income, gains, losses and deductions recognized by each such MLP, whether or not the MLP distributes cash to the Fund. A distribution from an MLP is treated as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of the Fund's tax basis in its MLP interest and as gain from the sale or exchange of the MLP interest to the extent the distribution exceeds the Fund's tax basis in its MLP interest. Based upon a review of the historic results of the type of MLPs in which the Fund intends to invest, the Fund expects that the cash distributions it will receive with respect to its investments in equity securities of MLPs will exceed the taxable income allocated to the Fund from such MLPs. No

assurance, however, can be given in this regard. If this expectation is not realized, the Fund will have a larger corporate income tax expense than expected, which would result in less cash available to distribute to Common Stockholders.

In addition, for purposes of calculating the Fund's alternative minimum taxable income, the Fund's allocable share of certain percentage-depletion deductions and intangible drilling costs of the MLPs in which the Fund invests may be treated as items of tax preference. Such items will increase the Fund's alternative minimum taxable income and increase the likelihood that the Fund may be subject to the alternative minimum tax.

U.S. Holders

The following is a summary of certain United States federal income tax consequences that will apply to holders of Common Stock that are U.S. Holders.

Taxation of Dividends

The gross amount of distributions by the Fund in respect of Common Stock will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as dividend income to the extent the distributions are paid out of the Fund's current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under United States federal income tax principles. Such income will be included in a U.S. Holder's gross income on the day actually or constructively received by such holder. Subject to certain holding period and other requirements, such dividend income will generally be eligible for the dividends received deduction in the case of corporate U.S. Holders and will generally be treated as qualified dividend income eligible for reduced rates of taxation for non-corporate U.S. Holders (including individuals).

To the extent that the amount of any distribution exceeds the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits for a taxable year, as determined under United States federal income tax principles, the distribution will first be treated as a tax-free return of capital, causing a reduction in the adjusted basis of the Common Stock (thereby increasing the amount of gain, or decreasing the amount of loss, to be recognized by a U.S. Holder on a subsequent disposition of the Common Stock), and the balance in excess of adjusted basis will be taxed as capital gain. Any such capital gain will be long-term capital gain if such U.S. Holder has held the applicable Common Stock for more than one year.

A corporation's earnings and profits are generally calculated by making certain adjustments to the corporation's reported taxable income. Based upon the historic performance of similar MLPs in which the Fund intends to invest, the Fund anticipates that the distributed cash from the MLPs in its portfolio during certain years will exceed its earnings and profits. Thus, the Fund anticipates that only a portion of its distributions will be treated as dividends to its Common Stockholders for United States federal income tax purposes, although no assurance can be given in this regard.

Because of the Fund's status as a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes and its investments in equity securities of MLPs, the Fund's earnings and profits may be calculated using accounting methods that are different from those used for calculating taxable income. For instance, the Fund may use a less accelerated method of depreciation and depletion for purposes of computing its earnings and profits than the method used for purposes of calculating the taxable income of the MLP. In that case, the Fund's earnings and profits would not be increased solely by its allocable share of the MLP's taxable income, but would also have to be increased for the amount by which the more accelerated depreciation and depletion methods used for purposes of computing taxable income exceed the less accelerated methods used for purposes of computing earnings and profits. Because of these differences, the Fund may make distributions out of its current or accumulated earnings and profits, treated as dividends, in years in which the Fund's distributions exceed its taxable income.

Taxation of Capital Gains

A U.S. Holder generally will recognize taxable gain or loss on any sale, exchange or other disposition of Common Stock in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized for the Common Stock and the holder's adjusted tax basis in such Common Stock. Generally, a U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in its Common Stock will be equal to the cost of the holder's Common Stock, reduced by adjustments for distributions paid by the Fund in excess of its earnings and profits (i.e., returns of capital). Such gain or loss will generally be capital

gain or loss. Capital gains of non-corporate U.S. Holders (including individuals) derived with respect to capital assets held for more than one year are eligible for reduced rates of taxation. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to limitations.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

In general, information reporting will apply to distributions in respect of Common Stock and the proceeds from the sale, exchange or other disposition of Common Stock that are paid to a U.S. Holder within the United States (and in certain cases, outside the United States), unless the holder is an exempt recipient. A backup withholding tax (currently at a maximum rate of 28%) may apply to such payments if the holder fails to provide a taxpayer identification number (generally on an IRS Form W-9) or certification of other exempt status or fails to report in full dividend and interest income. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a refund or as a credit against a U.S. Holder's United States federal income tax liability provided the required information is timely furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Non-U.S. Holders

The following discussion is a summary of certain United States federal income tax consequences that will apply to holders of Common Stock that are non-U.S. Holders.

Taxation of Dividends

The gross amount of distributions by the Fund in respect of Common Stock will be treated as dividends to the extent paid out of the Fund's current or accumulated earnings and profits, as determined under United States federal income tax principles. Dividends paid to a non-U.S. Holder generally will be subject to withholding of United States federal income tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty. However, dividends that are effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business by a non-U.S. Holder within the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, are attributable to a United States permanent establishment) are not subject to the withholding tax, provided certain certification and disclosure requirements (generally on an IRS Form W-8ECI) are satisfied. Instead, such dividends are subject to United States federal income tax on a net income basis in the same manner as if the non-U.S. Holder were a United States person as defined under the Code. Any such effectively connected dividends received by a foreign corporation may be subject to an additional branch profits tax at a 30% rate or such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

A non-U.S. Holder who wishes to claim the benefits of an applicable income tax treaty (and avoid backup withholding, as discussed below) for dividends will be required (a) to complete IRS Form W-8BEN (or other applicable form) and certify under penalty of perjury that such holder is not a United States person as defined under the Code and is eligible for treaty benefits or (b) if Common Stock is held through certain foreign intermediaries, to satisfy the relevant certification requirements of applicable United States Treasury regulations. Special certification and other requirements apply to certain non-U.S. Holders that are pass-through entities rather than corporations or individuals.

A non-U.S. Holder eligible for a reduced rate of United States withholding tax pursuant to an income tax treaty may obtain a refund of any excess amounts withheld by filing an appropriate claim for refund with the Internal Revenue Service.

If the amount of a distribution to a non-U.S. Holder exceeds the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, such excess will be treated first as a tax-free return of capital to the extent of the non-U.S. Holder's tax basis in such holder's stock, and then as capital gain. As discussed above under the caption U.S. Holders Taxation of Dividends, the Fund expects that only a portion of its distributions to its stockholders will be treated as dividends for United States federal income tax purposes, although no assurance can be given in this regard. Capital gain recognized by a non-U.S. Holder as a consequence of a distribution by the Fund in excess of its current and accumulated earnings and profits will generally not be subject to United States federal income tax, except as described below under the caption Taxation of Capital Gains.

Taxation of Capital Gains

A non-U.S. Holder generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax on any gain realized on the disposition of Common Stock unless:

the gain is effectively connected with a trade or business of the non-U.S. Holder in the United States (and, if required by an applicable income tax treaty, is attributable to a United States permanent establishment of the non-U.S. Holder);

the non-U.S. Holder is an individual who is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of that disposition, and certain other conditions are met; or

the Fund is or has been a United States real property holding corporation for United States federal income tax purposes. An individual non-U.S. Holder described in the first bullet point immediately above will be subject to tax on the net gain derived from the sale under regular graduated United States federal income tax rates. An individual non-U.S. Holder described in the second bullet point immediately above will be subject to a flat 30% tax on the gain derived from the sale, which may be offset by United States source capital losses, even though the individual is not considered a resident of the United States. If a non-U.S. Holder that is a foreign corporation falls under the first bullet point immediately above, the holder will be subject to tax on its net gain in the same manner as if the holder were a United States person as defined under the Code and, in addition, may be subject to the branch profits tax equal to 30% of its effectively connected earnings and profits or at such lower rate as may be specified by an applicable income tax treaty.

The Fund may be a United States real property holding corporation for United States federal income tax purposes. With respect to the third bullet point above, if the Fund is or becomes a United States real property holding corporation, so long as the Fund's Common Stock is regularly traded on an established securities market (such as the NYSE), only a non-U.S. Holder who holds or held (at any time during the shorter of the five year period preceding the date of disposition or the holder's holding period) more than 5% (directly or indirectly, as determined under applicable attribution rules of the Code) of the Fund's Common Stock will be subject to United States federal income tax on the disposition of such Common Stock.

Information Reporting and Backup Withholding

The Fund must report annually to the Internal Revenue Service and to each non-U.S. Holder the amount of distributions paid to such holder (whether treated as dividends or a return of capital) and the tax withheld with respect to such distributions. Copies of the information returns reporting such distributions and withholding may also be made available to the tax authorities in the country in which the non-U.S. Holder resides under the provisions of an applicable income tax treaty.

A non-U.S. Holder will be subject to backup withholding for dividends paid to such holder unless such holder certifies under penalty of perjury that it is a non-U.S. Holder (and the payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that such holder is a United States person as defined under the Code), or such holder otherwise establishes an exemption. Dividends subject to withholding of United States federal income tax as described under the caption *Taxation of Dividends* above will not be subject to backup withholding.

Information reporting and, depending on the circumstances, backup withholding will apply to the proceeds of a sale of Common Stock within the United States or conducted through certain United States-related financial intermediaries, unless the beneficial owner certifies under penalty of perjury that it is a non-U.S. Holder (and the payor does not have actual knowledge or reason to know that the beneficial owner is a United States person as defined under the Code), or such owner otherwise establishes an exemption.

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules will be allowed as a refund or as a credit against a non-U.S. Holder's United States federal income tax liability provided the required information is timely furnished to the Internal Revenue Service.

Non-U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisor regarding the application of the information reporting and backup withholding rules to them.

Additional Withholding Requirements

Under legislation enacted in 2010 and administrative guidance, a 30% United States federal withholding tax may apply to any dividends paid after June 30, 2014, and the gross proceeds from a disposition of Common Stock occurring after December 31, 2016, in each case paid to (i) a foreign financial institution (as specifically defined in the legislation), whether such foreign financial institution is the beneficial owner or an intermediary, unless such foreign financial institution agrees to verify, report and disclose its United States account holders (as specifically defined in the legislation) and meets certain other specified requirements or (ii) a non-financial foreign entity, whether such non-financial foreign entity is the beneficial owner or an intermediary, unless such entity provides a certification that the beneficial owner of the payment does not have any substantial United States owners or provides the name, address and taxpayer identification number of each such substantial United States owner and certain other specified requirements are met. In certain cases, the relevant foreign financial institution or non-financial foreign entity may qualify for an exemption from, or be deemed to be in compliance with, these rules. Non-U.S. Holders should consult their tax advisor regarding this legislation and whether it may be relevant to their ownership and disposition of the Fund's Common Stock.

Medicare Tax on Net Investment Income

Recently enacted legislation will generally impose a tax on the net investment income of certain individuals and on the undistributed net investment income of certain estates and trusts. For these purposes, net investment income will generally include interest, dividends (including dividends paid with respect to our Common Stock), annuities, royalties, rent, net gain attributable to the disposition of property not held in a trade or business (including net gain from the sale, exchange or other taxable disposition of shares of our Common Stock) and certain other income, but will be reduced by any deductions properly allocable to such income or net gain. Common Stockholders are advised to consult their own tax advisors regarding additional taxation of net investment income.

Investment by Tax-Exempt Investors

Employee benefit plans and most other organizations exempt from United States federal income tax, including individual retirement accounts and other retirement plans, are subject to United States federal income tax on UBTI. Because the Fund is a corporation for United States federal income tax purposes, an owner of Common Stock will not report on its federal income tax return any of the Fund's items of income, gain, loss and deduction. Therefore, a tax-exempt investor generally will not have UBTI attributable to its ownership or sale of Common Stock unless its ownership of Common Stock is debt-financed. In general, a tax-exempt investor's Common Stock would be debt-financed if the tax-exempt investor incurs debt to acquire Common Stock or otherwise incurs or maintains a debt that would not have been incurred or maintained if its Common Stock had not been acquired.

Other Taxation

The Fund's Common Stockholders may be subject to alternative minimum tax, state, local and foreign taxes on distributions they receive. Common Stockholders are advised to consult their own tax advisors with respect to the particular tax consequences to them of an investment in the Fund.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell our Common Stock from time to time under this Prospectus and any related Prospectus Supplement in any one or more of the following ways (1) directly to one or more purchasers, (2) through agents for the period of their appointment, (3) to underwriters as principals for resale to the public, (4) to dealers as principals for resale to the public, (5) through at-the-market transactions or (6) pursuant to our Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

Our securities may be sold from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or fixed prices, which may change; at prevailing market prices at the time of sale; prices related to prevailing market prices; at varying prices determined at the time of sale; or at negotiated prices. Our securities may be sold other than for cash, including in exchange transactions for non-control securities, or may be sold for a combination of cash and securities. The Prospectus Supplement will describe the method of distribution of our securities offered therein.

Each Prospectus Supplement relating to an offering of our securities will state the terms of the offering, including:

the names of any agents, underwriters or dealers;

any sales loads, underwriting discounts and commissions or agency fees and other items constituting underwriters' or agents' compensation;

any discounts, commissions, fees or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers or agents;

the public offering or purchase price of the offered securities and the estimated net proceeds we will receive from the sale; and

any securities exchange on which the offered securities may be listed.

Any public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or reallocated or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

Direct Sales

We may sell our securities directly to, and solicit offers from, purchasers, including institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act for any resales of the securities. In this case, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We may use electronic media, including the internet, to sell offered securities directly. We will describe the terms of any of those sales in a Prospectus Supplement.

Distribution Through Agents

We may offer and sell our securities on a continuous basis through agents that we designate. We will name any agent involved in the offer and sale and describe any commissions payable by us in the Prospectus Supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the Prospectus Supplement, the agents will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of their appointment.

Offers to purchase our securities may be solicited directly by the issuer or by agents designated by the issuer from time to time. Any such agent, who may be deemed to be an underwriter as the term is defined in the Securities Act, involved in the offer or sale of the offered securities in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by the issuer to such agent set forth, in a Prospectus Supplement.

Distribution Through Underwriters

We may offer and sell our securities from time to time to one or more underwriters who would purchase the securities as principal for resale to the public either on a firm commitment or best efforts basis. If we sell our securities to underwriters, we will execute an underwriting agreement with them at the time of the sale and will name them in the Prospectus Supplement. In connection with these sales, the underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts and commissions. The underwriters also may receive

commissions from purchasers of our securities for whom they may act as agent. Unless otherwise stated in the Prospectus Supplement, the underwriters will not be obligated to purchase our securities

unless the conditions set forth in the underwriting agreement are satisfied, and if the underwriters purchase any of the securities, they will be required to purchase all of the offered securities. In the event of default by any underwriter, in certain circumstances, the purchase commitments may be increased among the non-defaulting underwriters or the Underwriting Agreement may be terminated. The underwriters may sell the offered securities to or through dealers, and those dealers may receive discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters as well as from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent. Sales of the offered securities by underwriters may be in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale. The Prospectus Supplement will describe the method of reoffering by the underwriters. The Prospectus Supplement will also describe the discounts and commissions to be allowed or paid to the underwriters, if any, all other items constituting underwriting compensation, and the discounts and commissions to be allowed or paid to dealers, if any. If a Prospectus Supplement so indicates, we may grant the underwriters an option to purchase additional shares of our securities at the public offering price, less the underwriting discounts and commissions, within a specified number of days from the date of the Prospectus Supplement, to cover any overallotments.

Distribution Through Dealers

We may offer and sell our securities from time to time to one or more dealers who would purchase the securities as principal. The dealers then may resell the offered securities to the public at fixed or varying prices to be determined by those dealers at the time of resale. We will set forth the names of the dealers and the terms of the transaction in the Prospectus Supplement.

Distribution Through At-the-Market Offerings

We may engage in at-the-market offerings to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise, in accordance with Rule 415(a)(4). An at-the-market offering may be through one or more underwriters or dealers acting as principal or agent for us.

General Information

Agents, underwriters, or dealers participating in an offering of our securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the offered securities for whom they may act as agent, may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act.

We may offer to sell our securities either at a fixed price or at prices that may vary, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices, or at negotiated prices.

If indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement, we may authorize underwriters or other persons acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase securities from us pursuant to contracts providing for payment and delivery on a future date. Institutions with which these contracts may be made include: commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, educational and charitable institutions and others, but in all cases these institutions must be approved by us. The obligations of any purchaser under any contract will be subject only to those conditions described in the applicable Prospectus Supplement. The underwriters and the other agents will not have any responsibility for the validity or performance of the contracts. The applicable Prospectus Supplement will describe the commission payable for solicitation of those contracts.

In connection with any offering of the securities in an underwritten transaction, the underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain, or otherwise affect the market price of the Common Stock. Those transactions may include overallotment, entering stabilizing bids, effecting syndicate covering transactions, and reclaiming selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer.

An overallotment in connection with an offering creates a short position in the offered securities for the underwriters' own account.

An underwriter may place a stabilizing bid to purchase an offered security for the purpose of pegging, fixing, or maintaining the price of that security.

Underwriters may engage in syndicate covering transactions to cover overallocments or to stabilize the price of the offered securities by bidding for, and purchasing, the offered securities or any other securities in the open market in order to reduce a short position created in connection with the offering.

The managing underwriter may impose a penalty bid on a syndicate member to reclaim a selling concession in connection with an offering when offered securities originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in syndicate covering transactions or otherwise.

Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of the securities above independent market levels. The underwriters are not required to engage in these activities, and may end any of these activities at any time.

Any underwriters that are qualified market makers on the NYSE may engage in passive market making transactions in our securities on the NYSE in accordance with Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, during the business day prior to the pricing of the offering, before the commencement of offers or sales of the common stock. Passive market makers must comply with applicable volume and price limitations and must be identified as passive market makers. In general, a passive market maker must display its bid at a price not in excess of the highest independent bid for such security; if all independent bids are lowered below the passive market maker's bid, however, the passive market maker's bid must then be lowered when certain purchase limits are exceeded. Passive market making may stabilize the market price of the securities at a level above that which might otherwise prevail in the open market and, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

We will not require underwriters or dealers to make a market in the Common Stock. Any underwriters to whom the offered securities are sold for offering and sale may make a market in the offered securities, but the underwriters will not be obligated to do so and may discontinue any market-making at any time without notice.

Under agreements entered into with us, underwriters and agents may be entitled to indemnification by us against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution for payments the underwriters or agents may be required to make. The underwriters, agents, and their affiliates may engage in financial or other business transactions with us and our subsidiaries, if any, in the ordinary course of business.

The aggregate offering price specified on the cover of this Prospectus relates to the offering of the securities not yet issued as of the date of this Prospectus. The place and time of delivery for the offered securities in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered are set forth in the accompanying Prospectus Supplement.

To the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, the underwriters may from time to time act as a broker or dealer and receive fees in connection with the execution of our portfolio transactions after the underwriters have ceased to be underwriters and, subject to certain restrictions, each may act as a broker while it is an underwriter.

A Prospectus and accompanying Prospectus Supplement in electronic form may be made available on the websites maintained by the underwriters. The underwriters may agree to allocate our securities for sale to their online brokerage account holders. Such allocations of our securities for internet distributions will be made on the same basis as other allocations. In addition, our securities may be sold by the underwriters to securities dealers who resell securities to online brokerage account holders.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

We may issue and sell shares of Common Stock pursuant to our Plan.

CUSTODIAN AND TRANSFER AGENT

The custodian of the assets of the Fund is State Street Bank and Trust Company LLC, Lafayette Corporate Center, 2 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston, Massachusetts 02111. The Custodian performs custodial, fund accounting and portfolio accounting services. The Fund's transfer, stockholder services and dividend paying agent is American Stock Transfer & Trust Company LLC, 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11219.

LEGAL OPINIONS

Certain legal matters in connection with the securities will be passed upon for the Fund by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, New York, New York. Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP may rely as to certain matters of Maryland law on the opinion of Foley & Lardner LLP.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

<u>Investment Objective</u>	1
<u>Investment Restrictions</u>	1
<u>Investment Policies and Techniques</u>	4
<u>Management of the Fund</u>	25
<u>Investment Manager</u>	35
<u>Portfolio Managers</u>	37
<u>Portfolio Transactions and Brokerage</u>	40
<u>Net Asset Value</u>	42
<u>General Information</u>	43
<u>Repurchase of Fund Shares; Conversion to an Open-End Fund</u>	43
<u>Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	44
<u>Control Persons and Principal Holders of Securities</u>	51
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	51
<u>Custodian</u>	51
<u>Additional Information</u>	51
<u>Financial Statements and Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	F-1
<u>Appendix A Description of S&P, Moody's and Fitch Ratings</u>	A-1
<u>Appendix B Proxy Voting Policy of Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC</u>	B-1
<u>Appendix C Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of ClearBridge Investments, LLC (f/k/a ClearBridge Advisors, LLC)</u>	AP-C-1

The information in this Prospectus Supplement is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This Prospectus Supplement is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

FORM OF PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

(To Prospectus dated , 2013)

Subject to completion, dated , 201 .

Shares

ClearBridge Energy MLP

Total Return Fund Inc.

Common Stock

\$ per share

We are offering shares of our common stock (Common Stock). We are a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that began investment activities on June 27, 2012 following our initial public offering. Our investment objective is to provide long-term investors a high level of total return with an emphasis on cash distributions. We seek to achieve our investment objective by investing primarily in master limited partnerships (MLPs) in the energy sector. This Prospectus Supplement, together with the accompanying Prospectus dated , 201 , sets forth the information that you should know before investing.

Our currently outstanding shares of Common Stock are, and the Common Stock offered by this Prospectus Supplement and accompanying Prospectus, subject to notice of issuance, will be, listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CTR. The last reported sale price of our Common Stock on , 201 was per share. The net asset value per share of our Common Stock at the close of business on , 201 was .

This investment involves risks. See Risks beginning on page 59 of the accompanying Prospectus.

	Per Share	Total
Public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to us	\$	\$

[We have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to an additional shares of our Common Stock at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, to cover over-allotments, if any, within days from the date of this Prospectus Supplement. If the underwriters exercise the option in full, the total underwriting discount will be \$, and the proceeds, before expenses, to us will be \$.]

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this Prospectus Supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

[Underwriter(s)]

The date of this Prospectus Supplement is _____, 201 .

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Prospectus Supplement

	Page
<u>Cautionary Notice Regarding Forward-Looking Statements</u>	S-iii
<u>Prospectus Supplement Summary</u>	S-1
<u>Summary Fund Expenses</u>	S-2
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	S-3
<u>Capitalization</u>	S-4
<u>Underwriting/Plan of Distribution</u>	S-5
<u>Legal Matters</u>	S-6
<u>Where You Can Find More Information</u>	S-6

Prospectus

	Page
<u>Prospectus Summary</u>	1
<u>Summary of Fund Expenses</u>	41
<u>Financial Highlights</u>	43
<u>Senior Securities</u>	44
<u>The Fund</u>	45
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	45
<u>Market and Net Asset Value Information</u>	45
<u>The Fund's Investments</u>	46
<u>Use of Leverage</u>	56
<u>Risks</u>	59
<u>Management of the Fund</u>	78
<u>Net Asset Value</u>	81
<u>Distributions</u>	83
<u>Dividend Reinvestment Plan</u>	83
<u>Description of Shares</u>	84
<u>Certain Provisions in the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws</u>	86
<u>Repurchase of Fund Shares</u>	90
<u>Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	90
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	95
<u>Custodian and Transfer Agent</u>	99
<u>Legal Opinions</u>	99
<u>Table of Contents of the Statement of Additional Information</u>	100

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus, which we refer to collectively as the Prospectus. This Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus set forth certain information about us that a prospective investor should carefully consider before making an investment in our securities. This Prospectus Supplement, which describes the specific terms of this offering, also adds to and updates information contained in the accompanying Prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus. The Prospectus gives more general information, some of which may not apply to this offering. If the description of this offering varies between this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus, you should rely on the information contained in this Prospectus Supplement; provided that if any statement in one of these documents is inconsistent with a statement in another document having a later date and incorporated by reference into the Prospectus or Prospectus Supplement, the statement in the incorporated document having the later date modifies or supersedes the earlier statement. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. If anyone

provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted or where the person making the offer or sale is not qualified to do so or to any person to whom it is not permitted to make such offer or sale. The information contained in or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus is accurate only as of the respective dates on their front covers, regardless of the time of delivery of this Prospectus Supplement, the accompanying Prospectus, or the sale of the securities. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

You should read this Prospectus Supplement and the accompanying Prospectus before deciding whether to invest and retain it for future reference. A Statement of Additional Information, dated _____, 2013 (the "SAI"), as supplemented from time to time, containing additional information about us, has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and is incorporated by reference in its entirety into this Prospectus. You may request a free copy of the SAI (the table of contents of which is on page 100 of the accompanying Prospectus), annual and semi-annual reports to stockholders (when available), and additional information about the Fund by calling (888) 777-0102, by writing to the Fund at 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, NY 10018 or visiting the Fund's website (<http://www.lmcef.com>). The information contained in, or accessed through, the Fund's website is not part of this Prospectus. You may also obtain a copy of the SAI (and other information regarding the Fund) from the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information relating to the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. Such materials, as well as the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports (when available) and other information regarding the Fund, are also available on the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>). You may also e-mail requests for these documents to publicinfo@sec.gov or make a request in writing to the SEC's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Prospectus Supplement, the accompanying Prospectus and the SAI contain forward-looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this Prospectus that address activities, events or developments that we expect, believe or anticipate will or may occur in the future are forward-looking statements including, in particular, the statements about our plans, objectives, strategies and prospects regarding, among other things, our financial condition, results of operations and business. We have identified some of these forward-looking statements with words like believe, may, could, might, forecast, possible, potential, project, will, should, expect, predict, anticipate, estimate, approximate or continue and other words and terms of similar meaning and the negative of such terms. Such forward-looking statements may be contained in this Prospectus Supplement as well as in the accompanying Prospectus. These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations about future events affecting us and are subject to uncertainties and factors relating to our operations and business environment, all of which are difficult to predict and many of which are beyond our control. Many factors mentioned in our discussion in this Prospectus, including the risks outlined under "Risk Factors," will be important in determining future results. In addition, several factors that could materially affect our actual results are the ability of the MLPs in which we invest to achieve their objectives, our ability to source favorable private investments, the timing and amount of distributions and dividends from the MLPs in which we intend to invest, the dependence of our future success on the general economy and its impact on the industries in which we invest and other factors discussed in our periodic filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, we do not know whether our expectations will prove correct. They can be affected by inaccurate assumptions we might make or by known or unknown risks and uncertainties. The factors identified above are believed to be important factors, but not necessarily all of the important factors, that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those expressed in any forward-looking statement. Unpredictable or unknown factors could also have material adverse effects on us. Since our actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those expressed in, or implied by, these forward-looking statements, we cannot give any assurance that any of the

events anticipated by the forward-looking statements will occur or, if any of them do, what impact they will have on our results of operations and financial condition. All forward-looking statements included in this Prospectus Supplement, the accompanying Prospectus or the SAI or are expressly qualified in their entirety by the foregoing cautionary statements. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of such documents. We do not undertake any obligation to update, amend or clarify these forward-looking statements or the risk factors contained therein, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under the federal securities laws. We acknowledge that, notwithstanding the foregoing statements, the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 does not apply to investment companies such as us.

S-iv

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT SUMMARY

This summary highlights selected information contained elsewhere in this prospectus supplement (the "Prospectus Supplement"). This summary provides an overview of selected information and does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in our common stock ("Common Stock"). You should read carefully the entire Prospectus Supplement, the accompanying prospectus (the "Base Prospectus"), including the section entitled "Risks," the statement of additional information (the "SAI"), and the financial statements and related notes, before making an investment decision.

The Fund

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. (the "Fund") is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company. Our investment objective is to provide long-term investors a high level of total return with an emphasis on cash distributions. We seek to achieve our investment objective by investing primarily in master limited partnerships ("MLPs") in the energy sector. Our currently outstanding shares of Common Stock are, and the Common Stock offered by this Prospectus Supplement and accompanying Base Prospectus, subject to notice of issuance, will be, listed on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "CTR".

We began investment activities in June 2012 following our initial public offering. As of , 201 , we had approximately million shares of Common Stock outstanding, net assets applicable to our Common Stock of approximately \$ million and total assets of approximately \$ million.

Investment Manager

LMPFA is the Fund's investment manager. LMPFA, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason Inc. ("Legg Mason"), is a registered investment adviser and supervises the day-to-day management of the Fund's portfolio by ClearBridge Investments, LLC (f/k/a ClearBridge Advisors, LLC) ("ClearBridge"). As of September 30, 2013, LMPFA's total assets under management were approximately \$211.5 billion. Legg Mason is a global asset management firm. As of September 30, 2013, Legg Mason's asset management operations had aggregate assets under management of approximately \$656.0 billion.

Subadviser

ClearBridge is the Fund's subadviser. ClearBridge, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Legg Mason, is a registered investment adviser and is responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund subject to the supervision of the Fund's Board of Directors and LMPFA. As of September 30, 2013, ClearBridge's total assets under management were approximately \$77.3 billion.

The Offering

Shares outstanding after the offering: shares

Common Stock offered: shares

Risks: See "Risks" and other information included in the Base Prospectus for a discussion of factors you should consider before deciding to invest in shares of our Common Stock.

SUMMARY OF FUND EXPENSES

The following table contains information about the costs and expenses that holders of our Common Stock will bear directly or indirectly. The table is based on the capital structure of the Fund as of (except as noted below). The purpose of the table and the example below is to help you understand the fees and expenses that you, as a holder of Common Stock, would bear directly or indirectly.

SHAREHOLDER TRANSACTION EXPENSES

Sales Load	%
Offering Expenses Borne by the Fund (as a percentage of offering price)	%(1)
Dividend Reinvestment Plan Fees(2)	None
TOTAL TRANSACTION EXPENSES (AS A PERCENTAGE OF OFFERING PRICE)	

ANNUAL EXPENSES

	Percentage of Net Assets Attributable to Common Shares(3)
Management fees(4)	%
Interest Payments on Borrowed Funds(5)	%
Other Expenses(6)	%
TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES	%

- (1) Offering expenses payable by the Fund will be deducted from the Proceeds, before expenses, to the Fund.
- (2) Common Stockholders will pay brokerage charges if they direct the Plan Agent (defined below) to sell Common Stock held in a dividend reinvestment account. See Dividend Reinvestment Plan in the Base Prospectus.
- (3) Based upon net assets applicable to Common Stock as of .
- (4) LMPFA receives an annual fee, payable monthly, in an amount equal to 1.00% of the Fund's average daily Managed Assets. Managed Assets means net assets plus the amount of any Borrowings and assets attributable to any Preferred Stock that may be outstanding. For the purposes of this table, we have assumed that the Fund has utilized Borrowings in an aggregate amount of % of its Managed Assets (after their issuance). If the Fund were to use financial leverage in excess of % of its Managed Assets, the management fees shown would be higher.
- (5) Based on the Fund's outstanding Borrowings as of \$ million, which represented financial leverage of % of the Fund's Managed Assets. The expenses and rates associated with leverage may vary as and when Borrowings are made.
- (6) Other expenses are estimated based upon those incurred during the fiscal year ended .

Example

As required by relevant SEC regulations, the following Example illustrates the expenses that you would pay on a \$1,000 investment in Common Shares, assuming (1) Total annual expenses of % of net assets attributable to Common Shares, (2) the sales load of \$ and estimated offering expenses of \$, and (3) a 5% annual return*:

	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Total Expenses Incurred(1)	\$	\$	\$	\$

- (1) **The Example should not be considered a representation of future expenses or returns. Actual expenses may be higher or lower than those assumed. Moreover, the Fund's actual rate of return may be higher or lower than the hypothetical 5% return shown in the Example.** The Example assumes that all dividends and distributions are reinvested at net asset value.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds from the sale of the shares of Common Stock that we are offering will be approximately \$ million, after deducting the underwriting discount and estimated offering expenses payable by us. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, we estimate that our net proceeds from this offering will be approximately \$ million, after deducting the underwriting discount and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

We intend to use the net proceeds of the offering from selling shares of our Common Stock to make investments in portfolio companies in accordance with our investment objective and policies and for general corporate purposes.

Pending such investments, we anticipate either investing the proceeds in short-term securities issued by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities or in high quality, short-term or long-term debt obligations or money market instruments. A delay in the anticipated use of proceeds could lower returns and reduce our distribution to holders of our Common Stock (Common Stockholders).

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our capitalization (i) as of _____, 201____ and (ii) as adjusted to give effect to the issuance of the Common Stock offered hereby. As indicated below, Common Stockholders will bear the offering costs associated with this offering.

	As of Actual	, 201____ As Adjusted
	(\$ in 000s, except per share data) (Unaudited)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	\$ (1)
Long-Term Debt:	\$	\$
Total Debt:	\$	\$
Common Stockholders' Equity:		
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share, 100,000,000 shares authorized (_____ shares issued and outstanding; _____ shares issued and outstanding as adjusted)(2)(3)	\$	\$
Paid-in capital(4)		
Net investment loss, net of income taxes less dividends and distributions		
Accumulated realized gains on investments, securities sold short and interest rate swap contracts, net of income taxes		
Net unrealized gains on investments and interest rate swap contracts, net of income taxes		
Net assets applicable to Common Stockholders	\$	\$

- (1) As described under "Use of Proceeds," we intend to use the net proceeds from this offering to make investments in accordance with our investment objective. Pending such investments, we anticipate either investing the proceeds in short-term securities or money market instruments.
- (2) We do not hold any of these outstanding securities for our account.
- (3) This does not include shares that may be issued in connection with the underwriters' over-allotment option.
- (4) As adjusted, additional paid-in capital reflects the proceeds of the issuance of shares of Common Stock offered hereby (\$ _____), less \$0.001 par value per share of Common Stock (\$ _____), less the underwriting discount (\$ _____) and less the net estimated offering costs borne by us (\$ _____) related to the issuance of the shares.

UNDERWRITING/PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

[TO BE FURNISHED AT TIME OF OFFERING]

S-5

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters in connection with our Common Stock will be passed upon for us by Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, New York, New York, and for the underwriters by . Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP and may rely as to certain matters of Maryland law on the opinion of Foley & Lardner US LLP.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We are subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act) and the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, and are required to file reports our annual, semi-annual and quarterly reports, and the SAI), proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our most recent shareholder report filed with the SEC is for the period ended , 201 . Such reports, proxy statements and other information, as well as the registration statement and the amendments, exhibits and schedules thereto, can be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC in Washington, D.C. Information about the operation of the public reference facilities may be obtained by calling the SEC at (202) 551-8090. Copies of such material may also be obtained from the Public Reference Section of the SEC at 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549, at prescribed rates. You can obtain the same information free of charge from the SEC s website at www.sec.gov. You may also e-mail requests for these documents to publinfo@sec.gov or make a request in writing to the SEC s Public Reference Section, 100 F Street, N.E., Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549.

This Prospectus Supplement and the Base Prospectus do not contain all of the information in our registration statement, including amendments, exhibits, and schedules. Statements in this Prospectus Supplement and the Base Prospectus about the contents of any contract or other document are not necessarily complete and in each instance reference is made to the copy of the contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by this reference. Additional information about us can be found in our Registration Statement (including amendments, exhibits, and schedules) on Form N-2 filed with the SEC. The SEC maintains a web site (www.sec.gov) that contains our Registration Statement, other documents incorporated by reference, and other information we have filed electronically with the SEC, including proxy statements and reports filed under the Exchange Act.

Shares

Common Stock

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

[Underwriter(s)]

, 201

S-7

\$300,000,000

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc.

PROSPECTUS

, 2013

CLEARBRIDGE ENERGY MLP TOTAL RETURN FUND INC.

STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. (the Fund) is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company.

This Statement of Additional Information relating to the Fund's common stock (Common Stock), which we also refer to as our securities, does not constitute a prospectus, but should be read in conjunction with the Fund's prospectus relating thereto dated , 2013, and as it may be supplemented (the Prospectus). This Statement of Additional Information does not include all information that a prospective investor should consider before purchasing the Fund's securities, and investors should obtain and read the Fund's Prospectus prior to purchasing such securities. A copy of the Fund's Prospectus, annual and semi-annual reports (when available) and additional information about the Fund may be obtained without charge by calling (888) 777-0102, by writing to the Fund at 620 Eighth Avenue, 49th Floor, New York, NY 10018 or by visiting the Fund's website (<http://www.lmcef.com>). The information contained in, or accessed through, the Fund's website is not part of the Fund's Prospectus or this Statement of Additional Information. Prospective investors may also obtain a copy of the Fund's Prospectus on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website (<http://www.sec.gov>). Capitalized terms used but not defined in this Statement of Additional Information have the meanings ascribed to them in the Prospectus.

This Statement of Additional Information is dated , 2013.

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF THE STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

	Page
<u>Investment Objective</u>	1
<u>Investment Restrictions</u>	1
<u>Investment Policies and Techniques</u>	4
<u>Management of the Fund</u>	25
<u>Investment Manager</u>	35
<u>Portfolio Managers</u>	37
<u>Portfolio Transactions and Brokerage</u>	40
<u>Net Asset Value</u>	42
<u>General Information</u>	43
<u>Repurchase of Fund Shares; Conversion to an Open-End Fund</u>	43
<u>Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations</u>	44
<u>Control Persons and Principal Holders of Securities</u>	51
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	51
<u>Custodian</u>	51
<u>Additional Information</u>	51
<u>Financial Statements and Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	F-1
<u>Appendix A Description of S&P, Moody's and Fitch Ratings</u>	A-1
<u>Appendix B Proxy Voting Policy of Legg Mason Partners Fund Advisor, LLC</u>	B-1
<u>Appendix C Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures of ClearBridge Advisors, LLC</u>	AP-C-1

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE

The Fund's investment objective is to provide a high level of total return, consisting of cash distributions and capital appreciation. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its Managed Assets (as defined in the Prospectus) in energy MLPs (the 80% policy). For purposes of the 80% policy, the Fund considers investments in MLPs to include investments that offer economic exposure to public and private MLPs in the form of MLP equity securities, securities of entities holding primarily general partner or managing member interests in MLPs, securities that are derivatives of interests in MLPs, including I-Shares, exchange-traded funds that primarily hold MLP interests and debt securities of MLPs. Energy entities are engaged in the business of exploring, developing, producing, gathering, transporting, processing, storing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products or coal.

INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The following restrictions, along with the Fund's investment objective, are the Fund's only fundamental policies—that is, policies that cannot be changed without the approval of the holders of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities. For the purposes of the foregoing, a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities means the lesser of (i) 67% of the shares represented at a meeting at which more than 50% of the outstanding shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares. The other policies and investment restrictions are not fundamental policies of the Fund and may be changed by the Fund's Board without stockholder approval. Except with respect to the Fund's ability to borrow under subparagraph (7) below, if a percentage restriction set forth below is adhered to at the time a transaction is effected, later changes in percentage resulting from any cause other than actions by the Fund will not be considered a violation. Under its fundamental restrictions, the Fund may not:

- (1) issue senior securities, except to the extent permitted by (i) the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act), or interpretations or modifications by the SEC, the SEC staff or other authority with appropriate jurisdiction, or (ii) exemptive or other relief or permission from the SEC, SEC staff or other authority;
- (2) make loans to other persons, except as permitted by (i) the 1940 Act, or interpretations or modifications by the SEC, SEC staff or other authority with appropriate jurisdiction, or (ii) exemptive or other relief or permission from the SEC, SEC staff or other authority;
- (3) underwrite the securities of other issuers, except insofar as the Fund may be deemed to be an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the 1933 Act), in connection with the sale and purchase of portfolio securities;
- (4) invest 25% or more of the value of its total assets in any one industry provided that such limitation shall not be applicable to industries in the energy sector and obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities;
- (5) purchase or sell real estate or interests therein other than corporate securities secured by real estate or interests therein;
- (6) purchase or sell commodities, commodity futures contracts or commodity options except as permitted by (i) the 1940 Act, or interpretations or modifications by the SEC, SEC staff or other authority with appropriate jurisdiction, or (ii) exemptive or other relief or permission from the SEC, SEC staff or other authority; and
- (7) borrow money, except as permitted by (i) the 1940 Act, or interpretations or modifications by the SEC, SEC staff or other authority with appropriate jurisdiction, or (ii) exemptive or other relief or permission from the SEC, SEC staff or other authority.

With respect to the limitation regarding the issuance of senior securities set forth in subparagraph (1) above, senior securities are defined as any bond, debenture, note, or similar obligation or instrument constituting a security and evidencing indebtedness, and any stock of a class having priority over any other class as to distribution of assets or payment of dividends.

The ability of a closed-end fund to issue senior securities is severely circumscribed by complex regulatory constraints under the 1940 Act that restrict, for instance, the amount, timing and form of senior securities that may be issued. Certain portfolio management techniques, such as credit default swaps, the purchase of securities on margin, short sales or the writing of puts on portfolio securities, may be considered senior securities unless appropriate steps are taken to segregate the Fund's assets or otherwise cover its obligations. To the extent the Fund covers its commitment under these transactions, including by the segregation of liquid assets, equal in value to the amount of the Fund's commitment, such instrument will not be considered a senior security by the Fund and therefore will not be subject to the 300% asset coverage requirement otherwise applicable to borrowings by the Fund.

Under the 1940 Act, a senior security does not include any promissory note or evidence of indebtedness where such loan is for temporary purposes only and in an amount not exceeding 5% of the value of the total assets of the issuer at the time the loan is made. A loan is presumed to be for temporary purposes if it is repaid within sixty days and is not extended or renewed.

With respect to the limitation regarding making loans to other persons set forth in subparagraph (2) above, the 1940 Act does not prohibit a fund from making loans; however, SEC staff interpretations currently prohibit funds from lending more than one-third of their total assets, except through the purchase of debt obligations or the use of repurchase agreements. A repurchase agreement is an agreement to purchase a security, coupled with an agreement to sell that security back to the original seller on an agreed-upon date at a price that reflects current interest rates. The SEC frequently treats repurchase agreements as loans.

With respect to the limitation regarding underwriting the securities of other issuers set forth in subparagraph (3) above, a technical provision of the 1933 Act deems certain persons to be underwriters if they purchase a security from an issuer and later sell it to the public. Although it is not believed that the application of this 1933 Act provision would cause a fund to be engaged in the business of underwriting, the policy set forth in subparagraph (3) will be interpreted not to prevent the Fund from engaging in transactions involving the acquisition or disposition of portfolio securities, regardless of whether the Fund may be considered to be an underwriter under the 1933 Act. Under the 1933 Act, an underwriter may be liable for material omissions or misstatements in an issuer's registration statement or prospectus.

For purposes of applying the limitation set forth in subparagraph (4) above, securities of the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities and securities backed by the credit of a U.S. governmental entity are not considered to represent industries. If the Fund were to concentrate its investments in a particular industry, investors would be exposed to greater risks because the Fund's performance would be largely dependent on that industry's performance. The Fund will invest at least 25% of the value of its total assets in industries in the energy sector. The Fund's industry concentration policy does not preclude it from focusing investments in issuers in a group of related industrial sectors (such as different types of energy issuers).

With respect to the limitation regarding the purchase or sale of commodities, commodity futures contracts or commodity options set forth in subparagraph (6) above, the 1940 Act does not prohibit a fund from owning commodities, whether physical commodities and contracts related to physical commodities (such as oil or grains and related futures contracts), or financial commodities and contracts related to financial commodities (such as currencies and, possibly, currency futures). The value of commodities and commodity-related instruments may be extremely volatile and may be affected either directly or indirectly by a variety of factors. There also may be storage charges and risks of loss associated with physical commodities.

With respect to the limitation regarding the Fund's ability to borrow set forth in subparagraph (7) above, the 1940 Act requires the Fund to maintain at all times an asset coverage of at least 300% of the amount of its borrowings. For the purpose of borrowing money, asset coverage means the ratio that the value of the Fund's total assets, minus liabilities other than borrowings, bears to the aggregate amount of all borrowings. Certain

trading practices and investments may be considered to be borrowings and thus subject to the 1940 Act restrictions. On the other hand, certain practices and investments may involve leverage but are not considered to be borrowings under the 1940 Act, such as the purchasing of securities on a when-issued or delayed delivery basis, entering credit default swaps or futures contracts, engaging in short sales and writing options on portfolio securities, so long as the Fund covers its obligations by segregating liquid assets, entering into offsetting transactions or owning positions covering its obligations.

Except with respect to the Fund's ability to borrow under subparagraph (7) above, all limitations applicable to the Fund's investments (as stated above and elsewhere in this Statement of Additional Information) apply only at the time a transaction is entered into. Any subsequent change in a rating assigned by any rating service to a security (or, if unrated, deemed by ClearBridge Investments, LLC (f/k/a ClearBridge Advisors, LLC) ("ClearBridge") to be of comparable quality), or change in the average maturity or duration of the Fund's investment portfolio, resulting from market fluctuations or other changes in the Fund's total assets, will not require the Fund to dispose of an investment until ClearBridge determines that it is practicable to sell or close out the investment without adverse market or tax consequences to the Fund. In the event that rating agencies assign different ratings to the same security, ClearBridge will treat the security as being in the highest rating category.

The Fund has neither sought nor obtained, nor does it currently intend to seek, any exemptive relief from the SEC.

The Fund may not change its policy to invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs unless it provides stockholders with at least 60 days' written notice of such change.

INVESTMENT POLICIES AND TECHNIQUES

The following information supplements the discussion of the Fund's investment objective, policies, and techniques that are described in the Prospectus.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its Managed Assets (as defined in the Prospectus) in energy MLPs (the "80% policy"). For purposes of the 80% policy, the Fund considers investments in MLPs to include investments that offer economic exposure to public and private MLPs in the form of MLP equity securities, securities of entities holding primarily general partner or managing member interests in MLPs, securities that are derivatives of interests in MLPs, including I-Shares, exchange-traded funds that primarily hold MLP interests and debt securities of MLPs. Energy entities are engaged in the business of exploring, developing, producing, gathering, transporting, processing, storing, refining, distributing, mining or marketing natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products or coal. For as long as "Energy MLP" is in the name of the Fund, the Fund will invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs. The Fund may not change its policy to invest at least 80% of its Managed Assets in energy MLPs unless it provides stockholders with at least 60 days' written notice of such change.

ClearBridge continues to believe that certain investors place too much emphasis on current distribution rates and do not effectively value an MLP's prospects for distribution growth. MLPs' distribution growth rates have historically varied widely, a trend that ClearBridge believes will continue in the future. ClearBridge also believes that distribution growth is the primary driver for MLP investment capital appreciation. A focus on MLPs with higher distribution growth rates, therefore, can help the Fund deliver attractive current distributions and offer the potential for above average total returns.

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in securities of issuers that are not MLPs. This 20% allocation may be in any of the securities described in the Prospectus and the SAI. Such issuers may be treated as corporations for United States federal income tax purposes and, therefore, may not offer the tax benefits of investing in MLPs described in the Prospectus.

The Fund may invest up to 30% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities. Restricted securities are securities that are unregistered, held by control persons of the issuer or subject to contractual restrictions on resale. In connection with its investments in restricted securities generally, the Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets in restricted securities issued by non-public companies.

The Fund may invest up to 20% of its Managed Assets in debt securities of MLPs and other issuers, including both investment grade debt securities and debt securities rated below investment grade (that is, rated Ba or lower by Moody's, BB+ or lower by S&P or Fitch, comparably rated by another NRSRO, or, if unrated, as determined by ClearBridge to be of comparable credit quality).

Portfolio Composition

Master Limited Partnerships

Entities commonly referred to as "MLPs" are generally organized under state law as limited partnerships or limited liability companies. The securities issued by many MLPs are listed and traded on a securities exchange. An MLP typically issues general partner and limited partner interests, or managing member and member interests. The general partner or managing member manages and often controls, has an ownership stake in, and is normally eligible to receive incentive distribution payments from, the MLP. If publicly traded, to be treated as a partnership for United States federal income tax purposes, an MLP must derive at least 90% of its gross income for each taxable year from specified qualifying sources as described in Section 7704 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code").

These qualifying sources include interest, dividends, real estate rents, gain from the sale or disposition of real property, income and gain from mineral or natural resources activities, income and gain from the transportation or storage of certain fuels, and, in certain circumstances, income and gain from commodities or futures, forwards and options with respect to commodities. Mineral or natural resources activities include

exploration, development, production, processing, mining, refining, marketing and transportation (including pipelines), of oil and gas, minerals, geothermal energy, fertilizer, timber or industrial source carbon dioxides. The general partner or managing member may be structured as a private or publicly traded corporation or other entity. The general partner or managing member typically control the operations and management of the entity through an up to 2% general partner or managing member interest in the entity plus, in many cases, ownership of some percentage of the outstanding limited partner or member interests. The limited partners or members, through their ownership of limited partner or member interests, provide capital to the entity, are intended to have no role in the operation and management of the entity and receive cash distributions. Due to their structure as partnerships for United States federal income tax purposes and the expected character of their income, MLPs generally do not pay United States federal income taxes. Thus, unlike investors in corporate securities, direct MLP investors are generally not subject to double taxation (i.e., corporate level tax and tax on corporate dividends). Currently, most MLPs operate in the energy or natural resources sectors. For a further discussion of the United States federal income tax consequences relating to the MLPs, see Certain United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

MLPs are typically structured such that common units and general partner or managing member interests have first priority to receive the minimum quarterly distributions (MQD). Common and general partner or managing member interests also accrue arrearages in distributions to the extent the MQD is not paid. Once common units and general partner or managing member interests have been paid, subordinated units generally receive distributions; however, subordinated units generally do not accrue arrearages. The subordinated units are normally owned by the owners or affiliates of the general partner or managing member and convert on a one for one basis into common units, generally in three to five years after the MLP s initial public offering or after certain distribution levels have been exceeded. Distributable cash in excess of the MQD is distributed to both common and subordinated units generally on a pro rata basis. The general partner or managing member is also normally eligible to receive incentive distributions if the general partner or managing member operates the business in a manner which results in payment of per unit distributions that exceed threshold levels above the MQD. As the general partner or managing member increases cash distributions to the limited partners or members, the general partner or managing member receives an increasingly higher percentage of the incremental cash distributions. A common arrangement provides that the general partner or managing member can reach a tier where it receives 50% of every incremental dollar distributed by the MLP. These incentive distributions encourage the general partner or managing member to increase the partnership s cash flow and raise the quarterly cash distribution by pursuing steady cash flow investment opportunities, streamlining costs and acquiring assets. Such results benefit all security holders of the MLP.

Energy MLPs can generally be classified into the following categories:

Pipeline MLPs. Pipeline MLPs are common carrier transporters of natural gas, natural gas liquids (primarily propane, ethane, butane and natural gasoline), crude oil or refined petroleum products (gasoline, diesel fuel and jet fuel). Pipeline MLPs also may operate ancillary businesses such as storage and marketing of such products. Pipeline MLPs derive revenue from capacity and transportation fees. Historically, pipeline output has been less exposed to cyclical economic forces due to its contract structure and government-regulated nature. In addition, most pipeline MLPs have limited direct commodity price exposure because they do not own the product being shipped.

Processing MLPs. Processing MLPs are gatherers and processors of natural gas as well as providers of transportation, fractionation and storage of natural gas liquids (NGLs). Processing MLPs derive revenue from providing services to natural gas producers, which require treatment or processing before their natural gas commodity can be marketed to utilities and other end user markets. Revenue for the processor is fee based, although it is not uncommon to have some participation in the prices of the natural gas and NGL commodities for a portion of revenue.

Gathering and Processing MLPs. Gathering and processing companies are subject to natural declines in the production of oil and natural gas fields, which utilize their gathering and processing facilities as a way to market their production, prolonged declines in the price of natural gas or crude oil, which curtails drilling activity and therefore production, and declines in the prices of natural gas liquids and refined petroleum products, which cause lower processing margins. In addition, some gathering and processing contracts subject the gathering or processing company to direct commodities price risk.

Midstream MLPs. Midstream MLPs and energy companies that provide crude oil, refined product and natural gas services are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve which will be impacted by a wide range of factors including, fluctuating commodity prices, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events, and economic conditions, among others.

Exploration and Production MLPs (E&P MLPs). E&P MLPs include MLPs that are engaged in the exploration, development, production and acquisition of crude oil and natural gas properties. E&P MLP cash flows generally depend on the volume of crude oil and natural gas produced and the realized prices received for crude oil and natural gas sales.

Propane MLPs. Propane MLPs are distributors of propane to homeowners for space and water heating. Propane MLPs derive revenue from the resale of the commodity on a margin over wholesale cost. The ability to maintain margin is a key to profitability. Propane serves a small portion of the household energy needs in the United States, largely for homes beyond the geographic reach of natural gas distribution pipelines. A majority of annual cash flow is earned during the winter heating season (October through March). Accordingly, volumes are weather dependent, but have utility type functions similar to electricity and natural gas.

Coal MLPs. Coal MLPs own, lease and manage coal reserves. Coal MLPs derive revenue from production and sale of coal, or from royalty payments related to leases to coal producers. Electricity generation is the primary use of coal in the United States. Demand for electricity and supply of alternative fuels to generators are the primary drivers of coal demand. Coal MLPs are subject to operating and production risks, such as: the MLP or a lessee meeting necessary production volumes; federal, state and local laws and regulations which may limit the ability to produce coal; the MLP's ability to manage production costs and pay mining reclamation costs; and the effect on demand that the Environmental Protection Agency's standards set in the Clean Air Act or other laws, regulations or trends have on coal end-users.

Marine Shipping MLPs. Marine shipping MLPs are primarily marine transporters of natural gas, crude oil or refined petroleum products. Marine shipping MLPs derive revenue from charging customers for the transportation of these products utilizing the MLPs' vessels. Transportation services are typically provided pursuant to a charter or contract, the terms of which vary depending on, for example, the length of use of a particular vessel, the amount of cargo transported, the number of voyages made, the parties operating a vessel or other factors.

MLPs typically achieve distribution growth by internal and external means. MLPs achieve growth internally by experiencing higher commodity volume driven by the economy and population, and through the expansion of existing operations including increasing the use of underutilized capacity, pursuing projects that can leverage and gain synergies with existing infrastructure and pursuing so called "greenfield" projects. External growth is achieved by making accretive acquisitions. MLPs also may achieve external growth due to higher commodity prices.

MLPs are subject to various federal, state and local environmental laws and health and safety laws as well as laws and regulations specific to their particular activities. These laws and regulations address: health and safety standards for the operation of facilities, transportation systems and the handling of materials; air and water pollution requirements and standards; solid waste disposal requirements; land reclamation requirements; and requirements relating to the handling and disposition of hazardous materials. MLPs are subject to the costs of compliance with such laws applicable to them, and changes in such laws and regulations may adversely affect their results of operations.

MLPs operating interstate pipelines and storage facilities are subject to substantial regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which regulates interstate transportation rates, services and other matters regarding natural gas pipelines including: the establishment of rates for service; regulation of pipeline storage and liquefied natural gas facility construction; issuing certificates of need for companies intending to provide energy services or constructing and operating interstate pipeline and storage facilities; and certain other

matters. FERC also regulates the interstate transportation of crude oil, including: regulation of rates and practices of oil pipeline companies; establishing equal service conditions to provide shippers with equal access to pipeline transportation; and establishment of reasonable rates for transporting petroleum and petroleum products by pipeline.

MLPs may be subject to liability relating to the release of substances into the environment, including liability under federal Superfund and similar state laws for investigation and remediation of releases and threatened releases of hazardous materials, as well as liability for injury and property damage for accidental events, such as explosions or discharges of materials causing personal injury and damage to property. Such potential liabilities could have a material adverse effect upon the financial condition and results of operations of MLPs.

MLPs are subject to numerous business related risks, including: deterioration of business fundamentals reducing profitability due to development of alternative energy sources, consumer sentiment with respect to global warming, changing demographics in the markets served, unexpectedly prolonged and precipitous changes in commodity prices and increased competition that reduces the MLP's market share; the lack of growth of markets requiring growth through acquisitions; disruptions in transportation systems; the dependence of certain MLPs upon the energy exploration and development activities of unrelated third parties; availability of capital for expansion and construction of needed facilities; a significant decrease in natural gas production due to depressed commodity prices or otherwise; the inability of MLPs to successfully integrate recent or future acquisitions; and the general level of the economy.

Non-MLPs

The Fund may also invest in companies that are not organized as MLPs. Non-MLP companies may include companies that operate energy assets but which are organized as corporations or limited liability companies rather than in partnership form. Generally, the partnership form is more suitable for companies that operate assets which generate more stable cash flows. Companies that operate midstream assets (e.g., transporting, processing, storing, distributing and marketing) tend to generate more stable cash flows than those that engage in exploration and development or delivery of products to the end consumer. Non-MLP companies also may include companies that provide services directly related to the generation of income from energy-related assets, such as oil drilling services, pipeline construction and maintenance, and compression services.

The energy industry and particular energy infrastructure companies may be adversely affected by possible terrorist attacks, such as the attacks that occurred on September 11, 2001. It is possible that facilities of energy infrastructure companies, due to the critical nature of their energy businesses to the United States, could be direct targets of terrorist attacks or be indirectly affected by attacks on others. They may have to incur significant additional costs in the future to safeguard their assets. In addition, changes in the insurance markets after September 11, 2001 may make certain types of insurance more difficult to obtain or obtainable only at significant additional cost. To the extent terrorism results in a lower level of economic activity, energy consumption could be adversely affected, which would reduce revenues and impede growth. Terrorist or war related disruption of the capital markets could also affect the ability of energy infrastructure companies to raise needed capital.

Securities

MLP Equity Securities

Equity securities issued by MLPs currently consist of common units, subordinated units and preferred units.

MLP Common Units. The common units of many MLPs are listed and traded on national securities exchanges, including the NYSE and the NASDAQ Stock Market (the "NASDAQ"). The Fund typically purchases such common units through open market transactions and underwritten offerings, but may also acquire common units through direct placements and privately negotiated transactions. Holders of MLP common units typically have very limited control and voting rights. Holders of such common units are typically entitled to receive the MQD, including arrearage rights, from the issuer. Generally, an MLP must pay (or set aside for payment) the MQD to holders of common units before any distributions may be paid to subordinated unit

holders. In addition, incentive distributions are typically not paid to the general partner or managing member unless the quarterly distributions on the common units exceed specified threshold levels above the MQD. In the event of a liquidation, common unit holders are intended to have a preference to the remaining assets of the issuer over holders of subordinated units. Master limited partnerships also issue different classes of common units that may have different voting, trading, and distribution rights. The Fund may invest in different classes of common units.

MLP Subordinated Units. Subordinated units, which, like common units, represent limited partner or member interests, are not typically listed on an exchange or publicly traded. The Fund typically purchases outstanding subordinated units through negotiated transactions directly with holders of such units or newly-issued subordinated units directly from the issuer. Holders of such subordinated units are generally entitled to receive a distribution only after the MQD and any arrearages from prior quarters have been paid to holders of common units. Holders of subordinated units typically have the right to receive distributions before any incentive distributions are payable to the general partner or managing member. Subordinated units generally do not provide arrearage rights. Most MLP subordinated units are convertible into common units after the passage of a specified period of time or upon the achievement by the issuer of specified financial goals. Master limited partnerships also issue different classes of subordinated units that may have different voting, trading, and distribution rights. The Fund may invest in different classes of subordinated units.

MLP Preferred Units. MLP preferred units are not typically listed on an exchange or publicly traded. The Fund typically purchases MLP preferred units through negotiated transactions directly with MLPs, affiliates of MLPs and institutional holders of such units. Holders of MLP preferred units can be entitled to a wide range of voting and other rights, depending on the structure of each separate security.

Other Equity Securities

The Fund may invest in equity securities issued by affiliates of MLPs, including the general partners or managing members of MLPs. Such issuers may be organized and/or taxed as corporations and therefore may not offer the advantageous tax characteristics of MLP units. The Fund intends to purchase equity securities through market transactions, but may also acquire equity securities through direct placements.

I-Shares. I-Shares represent an ownership interest issued by an MLP affiliate. The MLP affiliate uses the proceeds from the sale of I-Shares to purchase limited partnership interests in the MLP in the form of I-units. Thus, I-Shares represent an indirect interest in a MLP limited partnership interest. I-units generally have similar features as MLP common units in terms of voting rights and distribution but often may be subordinated in liquidation rights. I-Shares themselves have limited voting rights and are similar in that respect to MLP common units. I-Shares differ from MLP common units primarily in that instead of receiving cash distributions, holders of I-Shares will receive distributions of additional I-Shares (which are generally tax-free) in an amount equal to the cash distributions received by common unit holders. I-Shares are traded on the NYSE. For purposes of the Fund's 80% policy, securities that are derivatives of interests in MLPs include I-Shares and other derivative securities that have economic characteristics of MLP securities.

MLP General Partner or Managing Member Interests. The general partner or managing member interest in MLPs is typically retained by the original sponsors of an MLP, such as its founders, corporate partners and entities that sell assets to the MLP. The holder of the general partner or managing member interest can be liable in certain circumstances for amounts greater than the amount of the holder's investment in the general partner or managing member. General partner or managing member interests often confer direct board participation rights in, and in many cases control over the operations of, the MLP. General partner or managing member interests can be privately held or owned by publicly traded entities. General partner or managing member interests receive cash distributions, typically in an amount of up to 2% of available cash, which is contractually defined in the partnership or limited liability company agreement. In addition, holders of general partner or managing member interests typically receive incentive distribution rights, which provide them with an increasing share of the entity's aggregate cash distributions upon the payment of common unit distributions that exceed specified threshold levels above the MQD. Due to the incentive distribution rights, GP MLPs have higher distribution growth prospects than their underlying MLPs, but quarterly incentive distribution payments would also decline at

a greater rate than the decline rate in quarterly distributions to common and subordinated unit holders in the event of a reduction in the MLP's quarterly distribution. The ability of the limited partners or members to remove the general partner or managing member without cause is typically very limited. In addition, some MLPs permit the holder of incentive distribution rights to reset, under specified circumstances, the incentive distribution levels and receive compensation in exchange for the distribution rights given up in the reset.

Non-MLP Equity Securities

The Fund also may invest in common and preferred stock, convertible securities, warrants and depository receipts of companies that are organized as corporations, limited liability companies or limited partnerships.

Common Stock. Common stock generally represents an equity ownership interest in an issuer. Although common stocks have historically generated higher average total returns than fixed-income securities over the long term, common stocks also have experienced significantly more volatility in those returns and may under-perform relative to fixed-income securities during certain periods. An adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may depress the value of a particular common stock held by us. Also, prices of common stocks are sensitive to general movements in the stock market and a drop in the stock market may depress the price of common stocks to which the Fund has exposure. Common stock prices fluctuate for several reasons including changes in investors' perceptions of the financial condition of an issuer or the general condition of the relevant stock market, or the occurrence of political or economic events which effect the issuers. In addition, common stock prices may be particularly sensitive to rising interest rates, which increases borrowing costs and the costs of capital.

Preferred Stock. Preferred stock has a preference over common stock in liquidation (and generally as to dividends as well) but is subordinated to the liabilities of the issuer in all respects. As a general rule, the market value of preferred stock with a fixed dividend rate and no conversion element varies inversely with interest rates and perceived credit risk, while the market price of convertible preferred stock generally also reflects some element of conversion value. Because preferred stock is junior to debt securities and other obligations of the issuer, deterioration in the credit quality of the issuer will cause greater changes in the value of a preferred stock than in a more senior debt security with similarly stated yield characteristics. The market value of preferred stock will also generally reflect whether (and if so when) the issuer may force holders to sell their preferred shares back to the issuer and whether (and if so when) the holders may force the issuer to buy back their preferred shares. Generally, the right of the issuer to repurchase the preferred stock tends to reduce any premium that the preferred stock might otherwise trade at due to interest rate or credit factors, while the right of the holders to require the issuer to repurchase the preferred stock tends to reduce any discount that the preferred stock might otherwise trade at due to interest rate or credit factors. In addition, some preferred stocks are non-cumulative, meaning that the dividends do not accumulate and need not ever be paid. A portion of the portfolio may include investments in non-cumulative preferred securities, whereby the issuer does not have an obligation to make up any arrearages to its shareholders. There is no assurance that dividends or distributions on non-cumulative preferred stocks in which the Fund invests will be declared or otherwise paid. Preferred stock of certain companies offers the opportunity for capital appreciation as well as periodic income. This may be particularly true in the case of companies that have performed below expectations. If a company's performance has been poor enough, its preferred stock may trade more like common stock than like other fixed income securities, which may result in above average appreciation if the company's performance improves.

Convertible Securities. A convertible security is a preferred stock, warrant or other security that may be converted into or exchanged for a prescribed amount of common stock or other security of the same or a different issuer or into cash within a particular period of time at a specified price or formula. A convertible security generally entitles the holder to receive the dividend paid on preferred stock until the convertible security matures or is redeemed, converted or exchanged. Before conversion, convertible securities generally have characteristics similar to both fixed income and equity securities. The value of convertible securities tends to decline as interest rates rise and, because of the conversion feature, tends to vary with fluctuations in the market value of the underlying securities. Convertible securities ordinarily provide a stream of income with generally higher yields than those of common stock of the same or similar issuers. Convertible securities generally rank senior to common stock in a corporation's capital structure but are usually subordinated to comparable non-convertible

securities. Convertible securities generally do not participate directly in any dividend increases or decreases of the underlying securities although the market prices of convertible securities may be affected by any dividend changes or other changes in the underlying securities.

Warrants and Rights. The Fund may invest in warrants or rights (including those acquired in units or attached to other securities) that entitle the holder to buy equity securities at a specific price for a specific period of time but does so only if such equity securities are deemed appropriate by ClearBridge for inclusion in the Fund's portfolio.

Restricted Securities and Securities with Limited Trading Markets

The Fund may purchase securities for which there is a limited trading market or which are subject to restrictions on resale to the public. If the Fund were to assume substantial positions in securities with limited trading markets, the activities of the Fund could have an adverse effect upon the liquidity and marketability of such securities and the Fund might not be able to dispose of its holdings in those securities at then current market prices. Circumstances could also exist when portfolio securities might have to be sold by the Fund at times which otherwise might be considered to be disadvantageous so that the Fund might receive lower proceeds from such sales than it had expected to realize. Investments in restricted securities may involve added expenses to the Fund should the Fund be required to bear registration costs with respect to such securities. The Fund could also be delayed in disposing of such securities which might have an adverse effect upon the price and timing of sales and the liquidity of the Fund. Restricted securities and securities for which there is a limited trading market may be significantly more difficult to value due to the unavailability of reliable market quotations for such securities, and investment in such securities may have an adverse impact on net asset value. As more fully described below, the Fund may purchase Rule 144A securities for which there may be a secondary market of qualified institutional buyers as contemplated by Rule 144A under the 1933 Act.

Royalty Trusts

The Fund may invest in royalty trusts. However, such investments do not count towards the Fund's 80% policy. Royalty trusts are publicly traded investment vehicles that gather income on royalties and pay out almost all cash flows to stockholders as distributions. Royalty trusts typically have no physical operations and no management or employees. Typically royalty trusts own the rights to royalties on the production and sales of a natural resource, including oil, gas, minerals and timber. As these deplete, production and cash flows steadily decline, which may decrease distributions. Royalty trusts are, in some respects, similar to certain MLPs and include risks similar to those MLPs.

Debt Securities

The Fund may invest in debt securities. Debt securities may have fixed or variable principal payments and all types of interest rate and dividend payment and reset terms, including fixed rate, adjustable rate, zero coupon, contingent, deferred, payment in kind and auction rate features. To the extent the Fund invests in auction rate securities, the Fund will be subject to certain risks associated with participating in an auction, including the risk that an auction may fail and the Fund may lose its investment. The Fund has the flexibility to invest in debt securities that are below investment grade quality (that is, rated Ba1 or lower by Moody's or BB+ or lower by S&P or Fitch), commonly referred to as high yield securities or junk bonds. Issuers of securities rated Ba1/BB+ are regarded as having current capacity to make principal and interest payments but are subject to business, financial or economic conditions which could adversely affect such payment capacity. Debt securities rated Baa3 or BBB- or above are considered investment grade securities. Debt securities rated below investment grade quality are obligations of issuers that are considered predominately speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal according to the terms of the obligation and, therefore, carry greater investment risk, including the possibility of issuer default and bankruptcy and increased market price volatility. Debt securities rated below investment grade tend to be less marketable than higher-quality securities because the market for them is less broad.

A general description of Moody's, S&P's and Fitch's ratings of bonds is set forth in Appendix A hereto. The ratings of Moody's, S&P and Fitch generally represent their opinions as to the quality of the bonds they rate.

It should be emphasized, however, that such ratings are relative and subjective, are not absolute standards of quality, are subject to change and do not evaluate the market risk and liquidity of the securities. Consequently, bonds with the same maturity, coupon and rating may have different yields while obligations of the same maturity and coupon with different ratings may have the same yield.

If a security satisfies the Fund's minimum rating criteria at the time of purchase and is subsequently downgraded below such rating, the Fund will not be required to dispose of such security. If a downgrade occurs, ClearBridge will consider what action, including the sale of such security, is in the best interest of the Fund and its stockholders.

Securities Rated Below Investment Grade (High Yield or Junk Bonds)

Under rating agency guidelines, medium- and lower-rated securities and comparable unrated securities will likely have some quality and protective characteristics that are outweighed by large uncertainties or major risk exposures to adverse conditions. Medium- and lower-rated securities may have poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing, may have a current identifiable vulnerability to default or be in default, may be unlikely to have the capacity to pay interest and repay principal when due in the event of adverse business, financial or economic conditions, and/or may be likely to be in default or not current in the payment of interest or principal. Such securities are considered speculative with respect to the issuer's capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligations. Accordingly, it is possible that these types of factors could reduce the value of securities held by the Fund with a commensurate effect on the value of the Fund's shares.

The secondary markets for high yield securities are generally not as liquid as the secondary markets for higher rated securities. The secondary markets for high yield securities are concentrated in relatively few market makers and participants in the market are mostly institutional investors, including insurance companies, banks, other financial institutions and mutual funds. In addition, the trading volume for high yield securities is generally lower than that for higher-rated securities, and the secondary markets could contract under adverse market or economic conditions independent of any specific adverse changes in the condition of a particular issuer. These factors may have an adverse effect on the ability of the Fund to dispose of particular portfolio investments, may adversely affect the Fund's net asset value per share and may limit the ability of the Fund to obtain accurate market quotations for purposes of valuing securities and calculating net asset value. If the Fund is not able to obtain precise or accurate market quotations for a particular security, it will become more difficult to value the Fund's portfolio securities, and a greater degree of judgment may be necessary in making such valuations. Less liquid secondary markets may also affect the ability of the Fund to sell securities at their fair value. If the secondary markets for high yield securities contract due to adverse economic conditions or for other reasons, certain liquid securities in the Fund's portfolio may become illiquid and the proportion of the Fund's assets invested in illiquid securities may significantly increase.

Prices for high yield securities may be affected by legislative and regulatory developments. These laws could adversely affect the Fund's net asset value and investment practices, the secondary market for high yield securities, the financial condition of issuers of these securities and the value of outstanding high yield securities. For example, federal legislation requiring the divestiture by federally insured savings and loan associations of their investments in high yield bonds and limiting the deductibility of interest by certain corporate issuers of high yield bonds adversely affected the market in the past. See *Risks Below Investment Grade (High Yield) Securities Risk* in the Prospectus.

Zero Coupon Securities and Payment-In-Kind Securities

The Fund may invest in zero coupon securities and payment-in-kind securities. Zero coupon securities are debt securities that pay no cash income and are sold at substantial discounts from their value at maturity. When a zero coupon security is held to maturity, its entire return, which consists of the amortization discount, comes from the difference between its purchase price and its maturity value. This difference is known at the time of purchase, so that investors holding zero coupon securities until maturity know at the time of their investment what the expected return on their investment will be, assuming full repayment of the bond. The Fund also may purchase payment-in-kind securities. Payment-in-kind securities pay all or a portion of their interest in the form of debt or equity securities rather than cash.

Zero coupon securities and payment-in-kind securities tend to be subject to greater price fluctuations in response to changes in interest rates than are ordinary interest-paying debt securities with similar maturities. The value of zero coupon securities appreciates more during periods of declining interest rates and depreciates more during periods of rising interest rates than ordinary interest-paying debt securities with similar maturities. Zero coupon securities and payment-in-kind securities may be issued by a wide variety of corporate and governmental issuers.

Current United States federal income tax law requires the holder of a zero coupon security, certain payment-in-kind securities, and certain other securities acquired at a discount to accrue income with respect to these securities prior to the receipt of cash payments.

Variable Rate Obligations

The Fund may invest in variable rate obligations. Variable rate obligations bear interest at rates that are not fixed, but vary with changes in specified market rates or indexes, such as the prime rate, and at specified intervals. Such obligations include, but are not limited to, variable rate master demand notes, which are unsecured instruments issued pursuant to an agreement between the issuer and the holder that permit the indebtedness thereunder to vary and provide for periodic adjustments in the interest rate.

Certain of the variable rate obligations that may be purchased by the Fund may carry a demand feature that would permit the holder to tender them back to the issuer of the instrument or to a third party at par value prior to maturity. Some of the demand instruments that may be purchased by the Fund may not trade in a secondary market and would derive their liquidity solely from the ability of the holder to demand repayment from the issuer or third party providing credit support. If a demand instrument is not traded in a secondary market, the Fund will nonetheless treat the instrument as readily marketable for the purposes of determining whether the instrument is an illiquid security unless the demand feature has a notice period of more than seven days in which case the instrument will be characterized as not readily marketable and therefore illiquid. ClearBridge monitors on an ongoing basis the ability of an issuer of a demand instrument to pay principal and interest on demand.

The Fund's right to obtain payment at par on a demand instrument could be affected by events occurring between the date the Fund elects to demand payment and the date payment is due that may affect the ability of the issuer of the instrument or the third party providing credit support to make payment when due, except when such demand instruments permit same day settlement. To facilitate settlement, these same day demand instruments may be held in book entry form at a bank other than the Fund's custodian subject to a sub-custodian agreement approved by the Fund between that bank and the Fund's custodian.

U.S. Government Obligations

Securities issued or guaranteed by U.S. Government agencies and instrumentalities include obligations that are supported by: (a) the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury (e.g., direct pass-through certificates of the Government National Mortgage Association (Ginnie Maes)); (b) the limited authority of the issuer or guarantor to borrow from the U.S. Treasury (e.g., obligations of Federal Home Loan Banks); or (c) only the credit of the issuer or guarantor (e.g., obligations of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (Freddie Macs)). In the case of obligations not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury, the agency issuing or guaranteeing the obligation is principally responsible for ultimate repayment.

Agencies and instrumentalities that issue or guarantee debt securities and that have been established or sponsored by the U.S. Government include, in addition to those identified above, the Bank for Cooperatives, the Export-Import Bank, the Federal Farm Credit System, the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, the Federal Land Banks, the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Student Loan Marketing Association.

Loans of Portfolio Securities

The Fund may lend portfolio securities to brokers or dealers or other financial institutions although it has no current intention to do so. The procedure for the lending of securities includes the following features and conditions. The borrower of the securities deposit cash or liquid securities with the Fund in an amount equal to a minimum of 100% of the market value of the securities lent. The Fund invests the cash collateral in short-term

debt securities or cash equivalents and earn the interest thereon. A negotiated portion of the income so earned may be paid to the borrower and/or the broker who arranged the loan. If the Fund receives securities as collateral, the Fund receives a fee from the borrower. If the value of the collateral drops below the required minimum at any time, the borrower may be called upon to post additional collateral. If the additional collateral is not paid, the loan will be immediately due and the Fund may use the collateral or its own cash to replace the securities by purchase in the open market charging any loss to the borrower. These are demand loans and may be terminated by the Fund at any time. The Fund receives any dividends and interest paid on the securities lent and the loans are structured to assure that the Fund is able to exercise its voting rights on the securities.

Rule 144A Securities

The Fund may purchase Rule 144A securities for which there is a secondary market of qualified institutional buyers, as defined in Rule 144A promulgated under the 1933 Act. Rule 144A provides an exemption from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act for the resale of certain restricted securities to qualified institutional buyers.

The Board of Directors of the Fund has determined that Rule 144A securities may be considered liquid securities if so determined by ClearBridge. ClearBridge has adopted policies and procedures for the purpose of determining whether securities that are eligible for resales under Rule 144A are liquid or illiquid. Pursuant to those policies and procedures, ClearBridge may make the determination as to whether a particular security is liquid or illiquid with consideration to be given to, among other things, the frequency of trades and quotes for the security, the number of dealers willing to sell the security, the number of potential purchasers, dealer undertakings to make a market in the security, the nature of the security and the time needed to dispose of the security.

To the extent that liquid Rule 144A securities that the Fund holds become illiquid, due to the lack of sufficient qualified institutional buyers or market or other conditions, the percentage of the Fund's assets invested in illiquid assets would increase. ClearBridge monitors Fund investments in Rule 144A securities and considers appropriate measures to enable the Fund to meet any investment limitations and to maintain sufficient liquidity for operating purposes.

Short Sales

The Fund may engage in short sales for investment and risk management purposes, including when ClearBridge believes an investment will under-perform due to a greater sensitivity to earnings growth of the issuer, default risk or interest rates. Short sales are transactions in which the Fund sells a security or other instrument that it does not own but can borrow in the market. Short selling allows the Fund to profit from a decline in market price to the extent such decline exceeds the transaction costs and the costs of borrowing the securities and to obtain a low cost means of financing long investments that ClearBridge believes are attractive. When the Fund engages in a short sale on a security, it must borrow the security sold short and deliver it to the counterparty. The Fund will ordinarily have to pay a fee or premium to borrow particular securities and be obligated to repay the lender of the security any coupon or interest that accrues on the securities during the period of the loan. The amount of any gain from a short sale will be decreased, and the amount of any loss increased, by the amount of the premium, dividends, interest or expenses the Fund pays in connection with the short sale. Also, there is the risk that the counterparty to a short sale may fail to honor its contractual terms, causing a loss to the Fund.

During the period of the short sale, the Fund may be required to maintain the short sale proceeds that the broker holds and any additional assets the lending broker requires as collateral. The Fund may also be required to designate, on its books or the books of its custodian, liquid assets (less any additional collateral held by the broker) to cover the short sale obligation, marked-to-market daily. Depending on the arrangements made with the broker or custodian, the Fund may or may not receive any payments (including interest) on collateral it has deposited with the broker.

Derivatives

The Fund may use various investment strategies described below to hedge market risks (such as broad or specific market movements), to manage the effective maturity or duration of debt instruments held by the Fund, or to seek to increase the Fund's income or gain.

The Fund may invest in options contracts, futures contracts, forward contracts, options on futures contracts and indexed securities for investment, hedging and risk management purposes, and other similar transactions, which may be developed to the extent that ClearBridge determines that they are consistent with the Fund's investment objective and policies and applicable regulatory requirements (collectively, these transactions are referred to as *Derivatives*). The Fund may also enter into interest rate transactions, which may take the form of swaps, caps, floors, collars and other combinations of options, forwards, swaps and/or futures.

The Fund is not a commodity pool (i.e., a pooled investment vehicle which trades in commodity futures contracts and options thereon and the operator of which is registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)), and Derivatives involving futures contracts and options on futures contracts are purchased, sold or entered into only for bona fide hedging purposes, provided that the Fund may enter into such transactions for purposes other than bona fide hedging if, immediately thereafter,

(i) the pro rata share of the sum of the amount of initial margin deposits on futures contracts entered into by the Fund and premiums paid for unexpired options with respect to such contracts does not exceed 5% of the liquidation value of the Fund's net assets, after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on such contracts and options (in the case of an option that is in-the-money at the time of purchase, the in-the-money amount may be excluded in calculating the 5% limitation); or

(ii) the aggregate notional value (i.e., the size of the contract, in contract units, times the current market price (futures position) or strike price (options position) of each such unit) of the contract, does not exceed the liquidation value of the Fund, after taking into account unrealized profits and unrealized losses on such contracts and options.

Derivatives involve special risks, including possible default by the other party to the transaction, illiquidity and, to the extent ClearBridge's view as to certain market movements is incorrect, the risk that the use of Derivatives could result in significantly greater losses than if they had not been used.

Futures Contracts. The Fund may trade futures contracts: (1) on domestic and foreign exchanges on bond indexes; and (2) on domestic and, to the extent permitted by the CFTC or SEC, as applicable, foreign exchanges on single stocks and stock indexes. Futures contracts are generally bought and sold on the commodities exchanges on which they are listed with payment of initial and variation margin as described below. The sale of a futures contract creates a firm obligation by the Fund, as seller, to deliver to the buyer the specific type of financial instrument called for in the contract at a specific future time for a specified price (or with respect to certain instruments, the net cash amount). The Fund is not a commodity pool, and the Fund, where permitted, uses futures contracts and options thereon solely: (i) for bona fide hedging purposes; and (ii) for other purposes in amounts permitted by the rules and regulations promulgated by the CFTC. The Fund's use of financial futures contracts and options thereon is in all cases consistent with applicable regulatory requirements and in particular the rules and regulations of the CFTC. Maintaining a futures contract or selling an option on a futures contract typically requires the Fund to deposit with a financial intermediary, as security for its obligations, an amount of cash or other specified assets (initial margin) that initially is from 1% to 10% of the face amount of the contract (but may be higher in some circumstances). Additional cash or assets (variation margin) may be required to be deposited thereafter daily as the mark-to-market value of the futures contract fluctuates. In addition, the value of all futures contracts sold by the Fund (adjusted for the historical volatility relationship between the Fund and the contracts) does not exceed the total market value of the Fund's securities. In addition, the value of the Fund's long futures and options positions (futures contracts on stock or bond indexes, and call options on such futures contracts) does not exceed the sum of: (a) liquid assets segregated for this purpose; (b) cash proceeds on existing investments due within thirty days; and (c) accrued profits on the particular futures or options positions.

Options. In order to hedge against adverse market shifts or to increase income or gain, the Fund may purchase put and call options or write covered put and call options on securities or fixed income instruments or on futures contracts on securities or stock indexes. A call option is covered if, so long as the Fund is obligated as the writer of the option, it will: (i) own the underlying investment subject to the option; (ii) own securities convertible or exchangeable without the payment of any consideration into the securities subject to the option; (iii) own a call option on the relevant security with an exercise price no higher than the exercise price on the call option written or (iv) deposit with its custodian in a segregated account liquid assets having a value equal to the excess of the value of the security or index that is the subject of the call over the exercise price. A put option is covered if, to support its obligation to purchase the underlying investment if a put option that the Fund writes is exercised, the Fund will either (a) deposit with its custodian in a segregated account liquid assets having a value at least equal to the exercise price of the underlying investment or (b) continue to own an equivalent number of puts of the same series (that is, puts on the same underlying investment having the same exercise prices and expiration dates as those written by the Fund), or an equivalent number of puts of the same class (that is, puts on the same underlying investment) with exercise prices greater than those that it has written (or, if the exercise prices of the puts it holds are less than the exercise prices of those it has written, it will deposit the difference with its custodian in a segregated account). Parties to options transactions must make certain payments and/or set aside certain amounts of assets in connection with each transaction, as described below.

In all cases, except for certain options on interest rate futures contracts, by writing a call, the Fund limits its opportunity to profit from an increase in the market value of the underlying investment above the exercise price of the option for as long as the Fund's obligation as writer of the option continues. By writing a put, the Fund limits its opportunity to profit from a decrease in the market value of the underlying investment below the exercise price of the option for as long as the Fund's obligation as writer of the option continues. Upon the exercise of a put option written by the Fund, the Fund may suffer an economic loss equal to the difference between the price at which the Fund is required to purchase the underlying investment and its market value at the time of the option exercise, less the premium received for writing the option. Upon the exercise of a call option written by the Fund, the Fund may suffer an economic loss equal to an amount not less than the excess of the investment's market value at the time of the option exercise over the Fund's acquisition cost of the investment, less the sum of the premium received for writing the option and the positive difference, if any, between the call price paid to the Fund and the Fund's acquisition cost of the investment.

In all cases except for certain options on interest rate futures contracts, in purchasing a put option, the Fund seeks to benefit from a decline in the market price of the underlying investment, while in purchasing a call option, the Fund seeks to benefit from an increase in the market price of the underlying investment. If an option purchased is not sold or exercised when it has remaining value, or if the market price of the underlying investment remains equal to or greater than the exercise price, in the case of a put, or remains equal to or below the exercise price, in the case of a call, during the life of the option, the Fund will lose its investment in the option. For the purchase of an option to be profitable, the market price of the underlying investment must decline sufficiently below the exercise price, in the case of a put, and must increase sufficiently above the exercise price, in the case of a call, to cover the premium and transaction costs.

In the case of certain options on interest rate futures contracts, the Fund may purchase a put option in anticipation of a rise in interest rates, and purchase a call option in anticipation of a fall in interest rates. By writing a covered call option on interest rate futures contracts, the Fund limits its opportunity to profit from a fall in interest rates. By writing a covered put option on interest rate futures contracts, the Fund limits its opportunity to profit from a rise in interest rates.

The Fund may choose to exercise the options it holds, permit them to expire or terminate them prior to their expiration by entering into closing transactions. The Fund may enter into a closing purchase transaction in which the Fund purchases an option having the same terms as the option it had written or a closing sale transaction in which the Fund sells an option having the same terms as the option it had purchased. A covered option writer unable to effect a closing purchase transaction will not be able to sell the underlying security until the option expires or the underlying security is delivered upon exercise, with the result that the writer will be subject to the

risk of market decline in the underlying security during such period. Should the Fund choose to exercise an option, the Fund will purchase in the open market the securities, commodities or commodity futures contracts underlying the exercised option.

Exchange-listed options on securities and currencies, with certain exceptions, generally settle by physical delivery of the underlying security or currency, although in the future, cash settlement may become available. Frequently, rather than taking or making delivery of the underlying instrument through the process of exercising the option, listed options are closed by entering into offsetting purchase or sale transactions that do not result in ownership of the new option. Index options are cash settled for the net amount, if any, by which the option is in-the-money (that is, the amount by which the value of the underlying instrument exceeds, in the case of a call option, or is less than, in the case of a put option, the exercise price of the option) at the time the option is exercised.

Put options and call options typically have similar structural characteristics and operational mechanics regardless of the underlying instrument on which they are purchased or sold. Thus, the following general discussion relates to each of the particular types of options discussed in greater detail below. In addition, many Derivatives involving options require segregation of Fund assets in special accounts.

A put option gives the purchaser of the option, upon payment of a premium, the right to sell, and the writer of the option the obligation to buy, the underlying security, index, currency or other instrument at the exercise price. The Fund's purchase of a put option on a security, for example, might be designed to protect its holdings in the underlying instrument (or, in some cases, a similar instrument) against a substantial decline in the market value of such instrument by giving the Fund the right to sell the instrument at the option exercise price. A call option, upon payment of a premium, gives the purchaser of the option the right to buy, and the seller the obligation to sell, the underlying instrument at the exercise price. The Fund's purchase of a call option on a security, financial futures contract, index, currency or other instrument might be intended to protect the Fund against an increase in the price of the underlying instrument that it intends to purchase in the future by fixing the price at which it may purchase the instrument. An American style put or call option may be exercised at any time during the option exercised period. A European style put or call option may be exercised only upon expiration. A Bermudan style put or call option may be exercised at any time on fixed dates occurring during the term of the option. Exchange-listed options are issued by a regulated intermediary such as the Options Clearing Corporation (the OCC), which guarantees the performance of the obligations of the parties to the options. The discussion below uses the OCC as an example, but is also applicable to other similar financial intermediaries.

Index options are cash settled for the net amount, if any, by which the option is in-the-money (that is, the amount by which the value of the underlying instrument exceeds, in the case of a call option, or is less than, in the case of a put option, the exercise price of the option) at the time the option is exercised. Frequently, rather than taking or making delivery of the underlying instrument through the process of exercising the option, listed options are closed by entering into offsetting purchase or sale transactions that do not result in ownership of the new option.

The Fund's ability to close out its position as a purchaser or seller of an OCC-issued or exchange-listed put or call option is dependent, in part, upon the liquidity of the particular option market. Among the possible reasons for the absence of a liquid option market on an exchange are: (1) insufficient trading interest in certain options, (2) restrictions on transactions imposed by an exchange, (3) trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options or underlying securities, including reaching daily price limits, (4) interruption of the normal operations of the OCC or an exchange, (5) inadequacy of the facilities of an exchange or the OCC to handle current trading volume, or (6) a decision by one or more exchanges to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options), in which event the relevant market for that option on that exchange would cease to exist, although any such outstanding options on that exchange would continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms.

The hours of trading for listed options may not coincide with the hours during which the underlying financial instruments are traded. To the extent that the option markets close before the markets for the underlying financial instruments, significant price and rate movements can take place in the underlying markets that would not be reflected in the corresponding option markets.

Over the counter (OTC) options are purchased from or sold to securities dealers, financial institutions or other parties (collect