

## PTE 80-83

### **Class Exemption for Certain Transactions involving Purchase of Securities where Issuer May Use Proceeds To Reduce or Retire Indebtedness To Parties In Interest**

#### I. Transactions

A. Effective January 1, 1975 the restrictions of section 406(a)(1)(A) through (D) of the Act and the taxes imposed by reason of section 4975(c)(1)(A) through (D) of the Code shall not apply to the purchase or other acquisition prior to December 1, 1980 in a public offering (defined in Section II(B)) of securities by a fiduciary on behalf of an employee benefit plan solely because the proceeds from the sale were or were to be used by the issuer of the securities to retire or reduce indebtedness owed to a party in interest with respect to the plan other than the fiduciary, provided that the price paid by the plan for the securities does not exceed adequate consideration as defined in section 3(18) of the Act.

B. Subject to the conditions described in section II(A), effective December 1, 1980, the restrictions of sections 406(a)(1)(A) through (D) of the Act and the taxes imposed by reason of section 4975(c)(1)(A) through (D) of the Code shall not apply to the purchase or other acquisition in a public offering (defined in section II(B)) of securities by a fiduciary on behalf of an employee benefit plan solely because the proceeds from the sale may be used by the issuer of the securities to retire or reduce indebtedness owed to a party in interest of the plan other than the fiduciary.

C. Subject to conditions described in section II(A), effective January 1, 1975, the restrictions of sections 406(a)(1)(A) through (D) and 406(b)(1) and (2) of the Act and the taxes imposed by reason of section 4975(c)(1)(A) through (E) of the Code shall not apply to the purchase or other acquisition in a public offering (defined in section II(B)) of securities by a fiduciary, which is a bank or an affiliate thereof, on behalf of an employee benefit plan solely because the proceeds from the sale may be used by the issuer of the securities to retire or reduce indebtedness owed to such fiduciary or any affiliate thereof, provided that, if such fiduciary of the plan knows (as defined in paragraph 7) that the proceeds of this issue will be used in whole or in part by the issuer of the securities to reduce or retire indebtedness owed to such fiduciary or affiliate thereof, the transaction shall have complied with the conditions set forth in paragraph 1 through 6 below:

1. Such securities are purchased prior to the end of the first full business day after the securities have been offered to the public, except that—
  - a. If such securities are offered for subscription upon exercise of rights, they may be purchased on or before the fourth day preceding the day on which the rights offering terminates; or
  - b. If such securities are debt securities, they may be purchased on a day subsequent to the end of such first full business day, if the effective interest rates on comparable debt securities offered to the public subsequent to such first full business day and prior to the purchase are less than effective interest rate of the debt securities being purchased;
2. Such securities are offered by the issuer pursuant to an underwriting agreement under which the members of the underwriting syndicate are committed to purchase all of the securities being offered, except if the securities

- a. Are purchased by others pursuant to a rights offering, or
  - b. Are offered pursuant to an overallotment option;
3. Effective May 9, 2022, the issuer of such securities has been in continuous operation for not less than three years, including the operations of any predecessors, unless at the time of acquisition, such securities are nonconvertible debt securities that are (i) subject to no greater than moderate credit risk and (ii) sufficiently liquid that such securities can be sold at or near their fair market value within a reasonably short period of time;
4. The amount of securities purchased or otherwise acquired on behalf of the plan by the fiduciary does not exceed three percent of the total amount of the securities being offered;
5. The consideration to be paid by any plan in purchasing or otherwise acquiring such securities does not exceed three percent of the fair market value, as of the most recent valuation date of the plan prior to such transaction, of the plan assets which are subject to the management and control of such fiduciary;
6. The total amount of securities in any single offering purchased by the fiduciary on behalf of the plan together with the total amount of such securities purchased by such fiduciary acting as a fiduciary on behalf of any other employee benefit plan subject to Title I of the Act does not exceed 10 percent of the amount of the offering;
7. As used in this section I(C), a fiduciary will be deemed to know that the proceeds of an issuance of securities will be used in whole or in part by the issuer of the securities to reduce or retire indebtedness owed to such fiduciary or an affiliate thereof, if
- a. Such knowledge is actually communicated to, or
  - b. Information reasonably sufficient to cause belief that the proceeds will be used in whole or in part by the issuer of the securities to reduce or retire indebtedness owed to the fiduciary, or an affiliate thereof, is possessed by, the officers or employees of the fiduciary, who are authorized to be involved in carrying out the investment responsibilities, obligations, or duties of the fiduciary, or who in fact are involved in carrying out such responsibilities, obligations, or duties, regarding the purchase or other acquisition.
- D. Effective January 1, 1975, the restrictions of sections 406(a)(1)(A) through (D) and 406(b)(1) and (2) of the Act and the taxes imposed by reason of section 4975(c)(1)(A) through (E) of the Code shall not apply to the receipt by a party in interest of any of the proceeds resulting from the issuance, in a public offering (as defined in section II(B)), of securities merely because such proceeds are used by the issuer of the securities to retire or reduce indebtedness owed to the party in interest provided that, when such party in interest is a fiduciary acquiring such securities on behalf of a plan, such fiduciary is a bank or an affiliate thereof (as defined in section II(B)) which meets the provisions of section I(C) of this exemption.

[E. Exception. No relief from the restrictions of 406\(b\) and the taxes imposed by Code sections 4975\(a\) and \(b\) by reason of Code sections 4975\(c\)\(1\)\(E\) and \(F\) is available for the receipt of compensation as a](#)

[result of the provision of investment advice within the meaning of ERISA section 3\(21\)\(A\)\(ii\) or Code section 4975\(e\)\(3\)\(B\) and regulations thereunder.](#)

## II. General Conditions

A. The following conditions apply to the transactions described in section I(B) and (C) above:

1. The price paid by the plan fiduciary for the securities shall not be in excess of the offering price described in an effective registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933 covering such securities, or in the case of securities described in section II(B)(1)(b), in the offering circular required under applicable federal law;

2. (a) The fiduciary, on behalf of the plan, maintains for a period of six years from the date of the transaction the records necessary to enable the persons described in section II(A)(2)(b) below to determine whether the conditions of this exemption have been met, except that a prohibited transaction will not be deemed to have occurred if, due to circumstances beyond the control of the fiduciary, the records are lost or destroyed prior to the end of the six-year period;

(b) Notwithstanding any provisions of subsections (a)(2) and (b) of section 504 of the Act, the records referred to in section II(A)(2)(a) above are unconditionally available at their customary location for examination during normal business hours by:

(i) Any duly authorized employee or representative of the Department of Labor or the Internal Revenue Service,

(ii) Any fiduciary of a plan who has authority to manage and control the assets of the plan, or to allocate to another fiduciary the authority to manage and control the assets of the plan, or any duly authorized employee or representative of such fiduciary,

(iii) Any contributing employer to the plan or representative of such employer,

(iv) Any participant or beneficiary of the plan or any duly authorized employee or representative of such participant or beneficiary.

(v) None of the persons described in subparagraph (ii) through (iv) of this paragraph shall be authorized to examine any fiduciary's trade secrets or required to be kept commercial or financial information which is privileged or required to be kept confidential.

B. For the purposes of the exemptions contained in Part I,

1. The term "public offering" means

a. The offering of securities registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (Securities Act), or

b. The offerings of securities exempt from registration under the Securities Act which are

(i) Issued by a bank,

(ii) Issued by a motor carrier if such issuance is subject to the provisions of section 214 of the Interstate Commerce Act, as amended,

(iii) Exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act pursuant to a federal statute other than the Securities Act, or

(iv) The subject of a distribution and of a class which is required to be registered under section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 781), and the issuer of which has been subject to the reporting requirements of section 13 of that Act (15 U.S.C. 78m) for a period of at least 90 days immediately preceding the sale of securities and has filed all reports required to be filed thereunder with the Securities and Exchange Commission during the preceding 12 months.

2. An “affiliate” of a bank means any entity directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controlling, controlled by, or under common control with such bank.

For the purposes of this paragraph, the term “control” means the power to exercise a controlling influence over the management or policies of a person other than an individual.

3. Each plan participating in a collective or commingled fund shall be considered to own the same proportionate undivided interest in each asset of the collective investment fund as its proportionate interest in the total assets of the collective investment fund as calculated on the most recent preceding valuation date of the fund.

4. For purposes of this exemption, the terms “employee benefit plan” and “plan” refer to an employee benefit plan described in section 3(3) of ERISA and/or a plan described in section 4975(e)(1) of the Code.

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