## **NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AUTHORITY**

# **Investment Policy**

# September 2013

### I. INTRODUCTION

#### A. <u>Purpose of Investment Policy</u>

The purpose of the Investment Policy is to define guidelines and operational factors governing the investment of all funds held by the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (the "Authority") or its bond trustees. This Investment Policy is intended to show compliance with all provisions of the Act (as defined herein) relating to investment of funds of the Authority, as well as provisions of the Authority's Bond Resolution (as defined herein). The Investment Policy will be reviewed by the Authority's Chief Financial Officer no less than once every 2 years, and any changes to this document will be presented to the Authority's Board of Commissioners for approval. This Investment Policy will be made available on the Authority's website, http://www.state.nj.us/turnpike.

#### B. <u>The Authority</u>

The Authority is a public body corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey created under and by virtue of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority Act of 1948, constituting Chapter 454 of the Laws of New Jersey of 1948, as amended and supplemented (the "Act"). Pursuant to the Act, the Authority is authorized and empowered to, subject to any agreement with the bondholders, invest moneys of the Authority not required for immediate use, including proceeds from the sale of any bonds, in such obligations, securities and other investments as the Authority shall deem prudent. All investments that have been purchased or will be purchased under and pursuant to, and/or in accordance with, the terms and provision of the Act and a resolution of the Authority adopted on August 20, 1991 and entitled, "Turnpike Revenue Bond Resolution", as amended and restated on September 26, 1991, and as further amended and restated on November 22, 1991, as the same has been and will be further amended, restated and supplemented from time to time (the "Bond Resolution"). Capitalized terms used herein which are not otherwise defined shall have the meaning given to such terms in the Bond Resolution.

### C. Best Interest of the Authority

Although adherence to this Investment Policy is desirable, deviations from this Policy may be appropriate from time to time to address: (i) changing financial goals; (ii) changing financial markets; and (iii) unique market opportunities. As a result, the general best interests of the Authority shall supersede any provision of this Investment Policy, provided that those provisions mandated by the Act or the Bond Resolution cannot be superseded without amendments to the Act or the Bond Resolution.

## **II. INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES**

- **A.** All investment decisions will meet the following requirements:
  - **1.** Safeguard and preserve the principal amount of invested funds.
  - **2.** Manage and maintain adequate liquidity to meet cash flow requirements, including bond payments.
  - **3.** Maintain demand bank balances at minimum levels consistent with sound operations.
  - 4. Maximize the total rate of return on invested funds.

## **III. PERMITTED INVESTMENTS**

- A. Eligible securities are defined in the Bond Resolution and shall include:
  - 1. Any direct and general obligations of, or any obligations guaranteed by, the United States of America, including but not limited to interest obligations of the Resolution Funding Corporation or any successor thereto.
  - 2. Any obligations of any state of political subdivision of a state which bonds are fully secured as to principal and interest by an irrevocable pledge of moneys or direct and general obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by the United States of America, which moneys or obligations are segregated in trust and pledged for the benefit of the holders of the bonds.
  - 3. Certificates of ownership of the principal or interest of direct and general obligations of, or obligations guaranteed by, the United States of America, which obligations are held in trust by a commercial bank which is a member of the Federal Reserve System.

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- 4. Bonds, debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued by any agency or instrumentality of the United States to the extent such obligations are guaranteed by the United States or by another such agency the obligations (including guarantees) of which are guaranteed by the United States.
- 5. Bonds, debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued by any of the following agencies:
  - o Government National Mortgage Assn. (GNMA)
  - Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. (FHLMC)
  - o Federal National Mortgage Assn. (FNMA)
  - Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLB)
  - Federal Land Banks
  - o Federal Intermediate Credit Banks
  - o Banks for Cooperatives
  - o Tennessee Valley Authority
  - o United States Postal Service
  - Farmers Home Administration
  - Export-Import Bank
  - Federal Financing Bank
  - Student Loan Marketing Assn.(SLMA);
- 6. Negotiable or non-negotiable certificates of deposit issued by any bank, trust company or national banking association, which certificates of deposit shall be continuously secured or collateralized by obligations described in subparagraphs 1,2,3,4 and 5 above, which shall have a market value (exclusive of accrued interest) at all times at least equal to the principal amount of such certificates of deposit and shall be lodged with the Trustee, as custodian, by the bank, trust company or national banking association issuing such certificates of deposit.
- 7. Uncollateralized negotiable or non-negotiable certificates of deposit issued by any bank, trust company or national banking association, the unsecured obligations of which are rated in one of the two highest rating categories, without regard to rating sub-categories, by Moody Investors Service (Moody's) and Standard & Poor's (S&P).

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- 8. Repurchase agreements collateralized by obligations described in subparagraphs 1,2,3,4, and 5 above with any registered broker/dealer subject to the Securities Investors Protection Corporation jurisdiction, which has an uninsured, unsecured and unguaranteed obligation rated "Prime-1" or "A3" or better by Moody's and "A-1" or "A" or better by S&P, or any commercial bank with the above ratings provided:
  - A. A master repurchase agreement or specific written repurchase agreement governs the transaction, which characterizes the transaction as a purchase and sale of securities.
  - B. The securities are held free and clear of any lien, by the Trustee or an independent third party acting solely as agent for the Trustee, and such third party is (i) a Federal Reserve Bank, (ii) a bank which is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and which has combined capital, surplus, and undivided profits of not less than \$75,000,000, or (iii) a bank approved in writing for such purpose by each Credit Issuer, if any, and the Trustee shall have received written confirmation from such third party that it holds such securities, free and clear of any lien, as agent for the Trustee.
  - C. A perfected first security interest under the Uniform Commercial Code, or book entry procedures prescribed at 31 CFR 306.1 et seq. or 31 CFR 350.0 et seq. or a successor provision in such securities is created for the benefit of the Trustee.
  - D. The repurchase agreement has a term of six month or less, or the Authority will value the collateral securities no less frequently than monthly and will liquidate the collateral securities if any deficiency in the required collateral percentage is not restored within two business days of such valuation.
  - E. The repurchase agreement matures on or before a debt service payment date (or other appropriate liquidation period).
  - F. The fair market value of the securities in relation to the amount of the repurchase obligation is equal to at least 100%.
- 9. Banker's acceptances, Eurodollar deposits and certificates of deposit (in addition to the certificates of deposit provided for by subparagraphs 6 and 7 above) of the domestic branches of foreign banks having a capital and surplus of \$1,000,000,000 or more, or any bank or trust company organized under the laws of the United States of America or Canada, or

any state or province thereof, having capital and surplus, in the amount of \$1,000,000,000; provided that the aggregate maturity value of all such banker's acceptances and certificates of deposit held at an times as investment of funds under the Bond Resolution with respect to any particular bank, trust company or national association shall not exceed 5% of its capital and surplus; and provided further that any such bank, trust company, or national association shall be rated in one of the two highest rating categories, without regard to rating sub-categories, by both Moody's and S&P.

- Other obligations of the United States of America or any agency thereof which may then be purchased with funds belonging to the State of New Jersey or which are legal investments for savings banks in the State of New Jersey.
- 11. Deposits in the New Jersey Cash Management Fund.
- 12. Obligations of any state, commonwealth or possession of the United States or a political subdivision thereof or any agency or instrumentality of such a state, commonwealth, possession or political subdivision, provided that at the time of their purchase such obligations are rated in either of the two highest rating categories by both Moody's and S&P.
- Commercial paper with a maturity date not in excess of 270 days rated A1+ and P-1 by Moody's at the time of such investment, issued by an entity incorporated under the laws of the United States or any state thereof.

## **IV. INVESTMENT PRACTICES**

#### A. <u>Investment Concentration</u>

It is the policy of the Authority to diversify its investment portfolio. Assets held in the investment portfolio shall be diversified to eliminate the risk of loss resulting from over-concentration of assets in a specific maturity, a specific issuer or a specific class of securities. The Authority will maintain an investment concentration not to exceed the percentages noted below. The Chief Financial Officer, or designee, is authorized to approve any deviation from these limits on a case by case basis.

1. There are no limitations on investments carrying the full faith and credit of the United States Government, including repurchase agreements collateralized by such investments.

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- 2. Investments in any single Federal Agency not carrying the full faith and credit of the United States Government are limited to 40% of the portfolio.
- 3. Investments in Certificates of Deposit are limited to 30% of the portfolio.
- 4. Investments made in Commercial Paper are limited to 30% of the total portfolio.
- 5. Investments in Municipal securities are limited to 30% of the total portfolio.
- 6. Investments in any one single issuer (excluding US Treasury and Federal Agency securities) are limited to 5% of the portfolio.

#### B. **Quality of Investments**

All investments shall be made with judgment and care, which persons of prudence, discretion and intelligence exercise in the management of their own affairs, not for speculation, but for investment, considering the probable safety of capital as well as the probable income to be derived.

All investments ratings shall be based on security ratings at the time of purchase. In the event of a downgrade in rating, the Chief Financial Officer, or designee, will determine whether to sell or hold the investment. The Authority will not make an investment in an issuer who has a negative outlook associated with their credit rating, except for US Treasury or Federal Agencies. The portfolio's average credit quality should be rated Aa3/AA- or better by Moody's/S&P.

## C. <u>Maximum Maturity</u>

At the time of purchase, the maturity of each security in the portfolio may not exceed the following maximum timeframes for the respective fund in which the investment is made in accordance with the Bond Resolution or Authority policy. The maximum maturity will take into account any call, put, prepayment or other features that may impact maturity. All investments mature no later than necessary to provide moneys when needed for payments to be made from such funds.

- $\circ$  Revenue Funds 1 year (by Bond Resolution)
- Construction Funds 5 years (by Authority Policy)
- $\circ$  Maintenance Reserve Fund 2 years (by Bond Resolution)
- Special Projects Reserve Fund 2 years (by Bond Resolution)
- General Reserve Fund 3 years (by Bond Resolution)
- Debt Service Fund 1 year (by Authority Policy)
- Charges Fund 3 months (by Authority Policy)
- Debt Reserve Fund 5 years (by Bond Resolution)

Investments are generally purchased with the intent of holding to maturity, but the Chief Financial Officer, or designee, has the flexibility to restructure and rebalance portfolio holdings to manage risk and take advantage of market opportunities.

## D. <u>Security Purchases</u>

All securities purchased by the Authority under this Investment Policy shall be designated as assets of the Authority and shall be conducted on a delivery-versus-payment (DVP) basis, with the securities delivered to a designated Authority custodian. The securities will be protected through the use of a third-party custodian/safekeeping agent, which may be a Trustee. A minimum of three (3) informal bids or offers will be solicited for direct purchases of securities. The award will be based on lowest cost for purchase. The Authority may use electronic trading screens to facilitate the informal bid process.

## V. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. On an annual basis, the Authority's Finance Department will prepare an Investment Plan, which will specify the targets for average invested balances, average maturity and average yield by fund. The report will also include concentration targets by investment type and issuer for the upcoming year considering current and projected market conditions.
- B. On a quarterly basis, the Authority's Finance Department will prepare an investment report which details actual performance compared to the Investment Plan.
- C. On a monthly basis, the Authority's Finance Department will prepare the following:
  - Schedule of Investments by fund;
  - Detailed purchases, maturities, sales of investments by fund;
  - Investments by Issuer;
  - Credit ratings by Issuer;
  - Average invested balances, maturity and yield by fund.