

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC & POWER CO
 Form 424B4
 September 11, 2002
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Filed Pursuant to Rule 424(b)(4)
 Registration No. 333-96973

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT
 (To Prospectus dated July 31, 2002)

U.S. \$1,600,000,000

Virginia Electric and Power Company

Medium-Term Notes, Series H

We plan to use this prospectus to offer medium-term notes from time to time. We will provide final terms for each Note in a pricing supplement. The following terms may apply to the Notes:

| | |
|--|---|
| Maturities of 9 months or more from date of issue Redemption and/or repayment provisions, that may be mandatory or at our option or the noteholders' option Payments in U.S. dollars or one or more foreign currencies Minimum denominations of \$25 or \$1,000 in U.S. dollars or equivalent amounts in foreign currencies | Interest at fixed or floating rates. The floating interest rate may be based on one or more of the following indices: CD rate LIBOR Federal funds rate Commercial paper rate Interest payments on fixed rate Notes on a semi-annual basis Interest payments on floating rate Notes on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual basis |
| | Prime rate Treasury rate CMT rate |

Investing in the Notes involves certain risks. See RISK FACTORS beginning on page S-5.

| | <u>Public Offering Price</u> | <u>Agents' Discounts And Commissions (1)</u> | <u>Proceeds to the Company</u> |
|----------|------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Per Note | 100% | 0.125%-0.750% | 99.875%-99.250% |
| Total(2) | U.S.\$1,600,000,000 | U.S.\$2,000,000-\$12,000,000 | U.S.\$1,598,000,000-\$1,588,000,000 |

- (1) Or as agreed, in the case of Notes with a maturity of more than 30 years.
- (2) Or the equivalent in one or more foreign or composite currencies.

We may offer the Notes through agents who solicit offers to purchase the Notes and receive a commission based on the principal amount of the Notes offered, to agents who purchase the Notes as principal for resale at varying or fixed offering prices and receive a negotiated commission, or directly to investors.

From time to time we may sell other securities described in the accompanying base prospectus, and the amount of Notes offered hereby may be reduced as a result of these sales.

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

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Lehman Brothers
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Morgan Stanley
Salomon Smith Barney

The date of this Prospectus Supplement is September 10, 2002.

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This prospectus supplement is part of a registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) utilizing a shelf registration process. Under this shelf process, we may sell up to a total of \$2.0 billion of securities, including up to \$1.6 billion of medium-term notes (Notes), in one or more offerings using this prospectus supplement, the accompanying base prospectus and future pricing supplements. From time to time we may sell other securities described in the accompanying base prospectus, and the amount of Notes offered hereby may be reduced as a result of these sales.

This prospectus supplement provides you with a general description of the Notes we may offer. The accompanying base prospectus provides more general information about securities we may offer from time to time, some of which does not apply to the Notes we may offer. Generally, when we refer to the prospectus, we are referring to both this prospectus supplement and the base prospectus. Each time we sell Notes, we will provide a pricing supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering and the Notes offered by us in that offering. The pricing supplement may also add, update or change information in this prospectus supplement. You should read the accompanying base prospectus, this prospectus supplement and any pricing supplement together with additional information described under the heading WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION.

You should rely only on the information contained in this document or to which this document refers you. We have not, and the agents 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. This document may only be used where it is legal to sell these securities. The information in this document may only be accurate as of the date of this document. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

In this prospectus supplement, the words Company, we, our and us refer to Virginia Electric and Power Company, a Virginia corporation, and its subsidiaries.

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WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room in Washington, D.C. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference rooms. You may also read and copy these documents at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with it, which means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus supplement and later information that we file with the SEC will automatically update or supersede this information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings made with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14, or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), until such time as all of the securities covered by this prospectus supplement have been sold:

Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2002 and June 30, 2002; and

Current Reports on Form 8-K dated January 18, 2002, January 29, 2002 and August 20, 2002.

You may request a copy of these filings, at no cost, by writing or telephoning us as follows:

Corporate Secretary
Virginia Electric and Power Company
701 East Cary Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Telephone (804) 819-2000

You should not assume that the information in this prospectus and any future pricing supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of those documents regardless of the time you receive them. Additional updating information with respect to the matters discussed in this prospectus and any pricing supplement may be provided in the future by means of appendices or supplements including future pricing supplements and documents incorporated by reference.

FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

We have included certain information in this document which is forward-looking information as defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Examples include discussions as to our expectations, beliefs, plans, goals, objectives and future financial or other performance or assumptions concerning matters discussed in this document. This information, by its nature, involves estimates, projections, forecasts and uncertainties that could cause actual results or outcomes to differ substantially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements.

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Our business and financial condition is influenced by factors that are difficult to predict and may involve uncertainties that are often beyond our ability to control including political and economic risks; market demand for energy; inflation; capital market conditions; changing rating agency requirements, governmental policies, legislative and regulatory actions (including those of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the SEC, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and state utility regulatory commissions in North Carolina and Virginia); industry and rate structure; and legal and administrative proceedings. Some other important factors that could cause actual results or outcomes to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements include changes in and compliance with environmental laws and policies; weather conditions and catastrophic weather-related damage; present or prospective wholesale and retail competition; electric generation deregulation; cost of replacement electric energy in the event of unscheduled generation outages; employee workforce factors, including collective bargaining agreements and negotiations with labor unions; the functional separation of our generation, transmission and distribution businesses; the transfer of control over our transmission facilities to a regional transmission entity; competition for new energy development opportunities; pricing and transportation of commodities; operation of nuclear power facilities; acquisition and disposition of assets and facilities; exposure to changes in the fair value of commodity contracts; counterparty credit risk; and unanticipated changes in operating expenses and capital expenditures. All such factors are difficult to predict, contain uncertainties that may materially affect actual results, and may be beyond our control. New factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible to predict all such factors, nor can we assess the impact of each such factor on us.

We have identified a number of these factors in our filings with the SEC, including our most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and we refer you to those reports for further information.

Any forward-looking statement speaks only as of the date on which it is made, and we undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statement to reflect events or circumstances after the date on which it is made.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR NON-U.S. RESIDENTS

The information set forth in this prospectus and any pricing supplement is directed to prospective purchasers who are U.S. residents, and we disclaim any responsibility to advise prospective purchasers who are residents of countries other than the United States with respect to any matters that may affect the purchase, holding or receipt of payments of principal, any premium and interest on the Notes. Non-U.S. residents should consult their own financial and legal advisers with regard to these matters.

IMPORTANT CURRENCY INFORMATION

Purchasers are required to pay for the Notes in U.S. dollars, or in other currencies, including composite currencies, as may be specified in the applicable pricing supplement (the Specified Currency), and

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payments of principal, any premium and interest on the Notes will also be made in U.S. dollars, unless the applicable pricing supplement provides that payments will be made in a Specified Currency. Currently, there are limited facilities in the United States for the conversion of U.S. dollars into the Specified Currencies and vice versa. Most banks do not currently offer non-U.S. dollar denominated checking or savings account facilities in the United States. Accordingly, unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement or unless alternative arrangements are made, payment of principal, any premium and interest made in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars will be made to an account at a bank outside of the United States. See DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES and SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO NOTES DENOMINATED IN A SPECIFIED CURRENCY OTHER THAN U.S. DOLLARS.

RISK FACTORS

Your investment in the Notes involves certain risks. In consultation with your own financial and legal advisers, you should carefully consider, among other matters, the following discussion of risks before deciding whether an investment in the Notes is suitable for you. Notes are not an appropriate investment for you if you do not understand their significant components.

Notes Indexed to Interest Rate, Currency or Other Indices or Formulas May Have Risks Not Associated With a Conventional Debt Security

If you invest in Notes indexed to one or more interest rate, currency or other indices or formulas, you will be subject to significant risks not associated with a conventional fixed rate or floating rate debt security. These risks include fluctuation of the particular indices or formulas and the possibility that you will receive a lower, or no, amount of principal, premium or interest and at different times than you expected. We have no control over a number of matters, including economic, financial and political events, that are important in determining the existence, magnitude and longevity of these risks and their results. In addition, if an index or formula used to determine any amounts payable in respect of the Notes contains a multiplier or leverage factor, the effect of any change in the particular index or formula will be magnified. In recent years, values of certain indices and formulas have been volatile and volatility in those and other indices and formulas may be expected in the future. However, past experience is not necessarily indicative of what may occur in the future.

Redemption May Adversely Affect Your Return on the Notes

If your Notes are redeemable at our option, we may choose to redeem your Notes at times when prevailing interest rates are relatively low. In addition, if your Notes are subject to mandatory redemption, we may be required to redeem your Notes at times when prevailing interest rates are relatively low. As a result, you generally will not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as the interest rate on your Notes being redeemed.

There May Not Be Any Trading Market for Your Notes; Many Factors Affect the Trading and Market Value of Your Notes

Upon issuance, your Notes will not have an established trading market. We cannot assure you a trading market for your Notes will ever develop or be maintained if developed. In addition to our creditworthiness, many factors affect the

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trading market for, and trading value of, your Notes. These factors include:

- the complexity and volatility of the index or formula applicable to your Notes,
- the method of calculating the principal, premium and interest in respect of your Notes,
- the time remaining to the maturity of your Notes,
- the outstanding amount of Notes,
- any redemption features of your Notes,
- the amount of other debt securities linked to the index or formula applicable to your Notes, and
- the level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally.

There may be a limited number of buyers when you decide to sell your Notes. This may affect the price you receive for your Notes or your ability to sell your Notes at all. In addition, Notes that are designed for specific investment objectives or strategies often experience a more limited trading market and more price volatility than those not so designed. You should not purchase Notes unless you understand and know you can bear all of the investment risks involving your Notes.

Foreign Currency Notes Are Subject to Exchange Rate and Exchange Control Risks

If you invest in Notes that are denominated and/or payable in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars (Foreign Currency Notes), you will be subject to significant risks not associated with an investment in a debt security denominated and payable in U.S. dollars, including the possibility of material changes in the exchange rate between U.S. dollars and the applicable foreign currency and the imposition or modification of exchange controls by the applicable governments. We have no control over the factors that generally affect these risks, including economic, financial and political events and the supply and demand for the applicable currencies. Moreover, if payments on your Foreign Currency Notes are determined by reference to a formula containing a multiplier or leverage factor, the effect of any change in the exchange rates between the applicable currencies will be magnified. In recent years, exchange rates between certain currencies have been highly volatile and volatility between these currencies or with other currencies may be expected in the future. Fluctuations between currencies in the past are not necessarily indicative, however, of fluctuations that may occur in the future. Depreciation of your payment currency would result in a decrease in the U.S. dollar equivalent yield of your Foreign Currency Notes, in the U.S. dollar equivalent value of the principal and any premium payable at maturity or any earlier redemption of your Foreign Currency Notes and, generally, in the U.S. dollar equivalent market value of your Foreign Currency Notes.

Governmental exchange controls could affect exchange rates and the availability of the payment currency for your Foreign Currency Notes on a required payment date. Even if there are no exchange controls, it is possible that your payment currency will not be available on a required payment date as a result of circumstances beyond our control. In these cases, we will be allowed to satisfy our obligations in respect of your Foreign Currency Notes in U.S. dollars.

Our Credit Ratings May Not Reflect All Risks of an Investment in the Notes

The credit ratings of our medium-term note program may not reflect the potential

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impact of all risks related to structure and other factors on any trading market for, or trading value of, your Notes. In addition, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings will generally affect any trading market for, or trading value of, your Notes.

THE COMPANY

Virginia Electric and Power Company (the Company) is a regulated public utility that generates, transmits and distributes power for sale in Virginia and northeastern North Carolina. In Virginia, the Company trades under the name Dominion Virginia Power. The Virginia service area comprises about 65 percent of Virginia's total land area, but accounts for over 80 percent of its population. In North Carolina, the Company trades under the name Dominion North Carolina Power and serves retail customers located in the northeastern region of the state, excluding certain municipalities. In addition, the Company sells electricity at wholesale to rural electric cooperatives, power marketers, municipalities and other utilities. We are a wholly owned subsidiary of Dominion Resources, Inc. (Dominion), a fully integrated gas and electric holding company. Dominion manages our operations, together with those of Dominion's other subsidiaries, along functional lines rather than by corporate entity. Dominion is not guaranteeing any of the securities described in this prospectus supplement.

Operating Segments

We currently manage our business through two principal segments: Energy and Delivery.

Energy Energy manages the Company's 18,000 megawatt portfolio of owned and operated generating facilities and purchased power contracts, trading and marketing activities and any commodity, hedging and arbitrage activities.

Delivery Delivery manages the Company's electric distribution and transmission systems, serving approximately 2.2 million customers, about 6,000 miles of electric transmission lines and customer service operations. We recently executed a preliminary agreement to have PJM Interconnection operate our transmission lines on a regional basis. Under the proposed plan, we would establish PJM South as a control area operated separately under the single PJM energy market.

As of December 31, 2001, we had approximately 7,900 full-time employees. Approximately 3,700 employees are subject to collective bargaining agreements. You should read our periodic reports filed with the SEC for information concerning our negotiations with unions representing our employees.

Virginia Electric and Power Company was incorporated in 1909 as a Virginia public service corporation. Our principal office is located at 701 East Cary Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219-3932. The telephone number is (804) 819-2000. All of the Company's common stock is held by Dominion.

For additional information about us, see WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION in this prospectus supplement.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The proceeds from the sale of the Notes will be used to meet a portion of the general capital requirements of the Company and for

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the refinancing of other outstanding debt. The refinancing of debt may include a portion of our commercial paper.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

| | Twelve Months Ended | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|------|------|------|------|
| | June 30, | December 31, | | | | |
| | 2002 | 2001 | 2000 | 1999 | 1998 | 1997 |
| Ratio of earnings to fixed charges | 4.03 | 3.16 | 3.76 | 3.50 | 2.19 | 3.21 |

For purposes of this ratio, earnings are determined by adding fixed charges (excluding interest capitalized) to income before taxes. These earnings are then divided by total fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest charges (without reduction for Allowance for Funds Used During Construction) on long-term and short-term debt, interest capitalized and the portion of rental expense as is representative of the interest factor.

DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES

Set forth below is a description of the specific terms of the Notes. This description supplements, and should be read together with, the description of the general terms of the Senior Debt Securities set forth in the accompanying base prospectus under the captions DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES and ADDITIONAL TERMS OF SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES. The following description does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and is qualified in its entirety by reference to, the Senior Indenture and the supplemental indenture pertaining to the Notes. Capitalized terms used in this DESCRIPTION OF THE NOTES that are not defined in this prospectus supplement have the meanings given to them in the Senior Indenture or the supplemental indenture.

General

The Notes will be issued under our Indenture, dated as of June 1, 1998, as supplemented by a Seventh Supplemental Indenture, dated as of September 1, 2002 (as further amended or modified from time to time, the Senior Indenture) between the Company and JPMorgan Chase Bank (formerly known as The Chase Manhattan Bank), as trustee (the Trustee). There is no limitation on the aggregate principal amount of Notes that we may issue. Also, we may, without the consent of the holders of Notes, issue additional Notes having the same ranking and the same interest rate, maturity and other terms as any tranche of Notes. Any additional Notes having such similar terms, together with the Notes, will constitute a single series of Notes under the Senior Indenture.

The terms and conditions set forth in this prospectus supplement will apply to each Note unless otherwise specified herein or in the applicable pricing supplement and in the Note. The Notes will likely be issued in book-entry form and will constitute a series of securities issued under the Senior Indenture. Notes issued in book-entry form will be represented by certificates deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company (the Depository) and registered in the name of the Depository's nominee (Book-Entry Notes). Any Notes issued in certificated form will be represented by certificates delivered to the purchasers designated by the Agents.

The Notes will be offered on a continuing basis and each Note will be due nine months or more from its date of issue, as selected by the purchaser and agreed to by the Company prior to the issuance thereof (the fixed date on which a Note is due is referred to as the Stated Maturity)

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Date). Maturity Date means the date on which the principal amount of a Note is due, whether at the Stated Maturity Date, or the date of earlier redemption or repayment.

Interest rates offered by the Company with respect to the Notes may differ depending upon, among other things, the aggregate principal amount of the Notes purchased in any single transaction.

References to U.S. dollars, U.S. \$, dollars or \$ in this prospectus supplement or any pricing supplement are to the legal currency of the United States of America.

The pricing supplement for each Note will state the following:

the principal amount of the Note;

the Specified Currency in which the Note is denominated (or, if the currency is no longer legal tender for the payment of public and private debts in the country issuing the applicable currency or, in the case of the euro, in the member states of the European Union that have adopted the single currency in accordance with the Treaty establishing the European Community, as amended by the Treaty on European Union, the currency which is then legal tender) and if the Note is denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars, the pricing supplement will include information relative to the Specified Currency;

the date on which the Note will be issued;

the Stated Maturity Date of the Note;

the Fixed Rate if a Fixed Rate Note or, if a Floating Rate Note, the Base Rate at which the Note will bear interest (including the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier (each as defined below) applicable thereto and any Minimum and/or Maximum Interest Rates (each as defined below) applicable thereto);

the specified Interest Payment Dates;

the redemption terms, if any, of the Note;

the repayment terms, if any, of the Note; and

additional terms (if any) applicable to the Note.

As used herein, Business Day means any day, other than a Saturday or Sunday, that is neither a legal holiday nor a day on which commercial banking institutions are authorized or required by law, regulation or executive order to close in New York City provided, however, that, with respect to Notes the payment of which is to be made in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars, that day is also not a day on which commercial banking institutions are authorized or required by law, regulation or executive order to close in the Principal Financial Center (as defined below) of the country issuing the Specified Currency (or, in the case of the euro, is also a day on which the Trans-European Automated Real-Time Gross Settlement Express Transfer (TARGET) System is open); provided, further, that, with respect to Notes as to which LIBOR is an applicable Base Rate, the day is also a London Business Day (as defined below).

London Business Day means any day on which commercial banks are open for business (including for dealings in the Index Currency) in London.

Principal Financial Center will generally be the capital city of the country issuing the Specified Currency, or to which the Index Currency relates, except that with respect to United States dollars, Swiss francs, Australian dollars, Canadian dollars and South African rand, the Principal Financial Center will be New York City, Zurich, Sydney,

Toronto and Johannesburg, respectively.

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Ranking

The Notes will be our direct, unsecured and unsubordinated obligations, ranking equally with all of our other senior unsecured indebtedness and will rank senior in right of payment to all our subordinated indebtedness. The Notes will be effectively subordinated to our secured debt. Substantially all of the Company's assets are subject to a first and prior lien in favor of holders of its First and Refunding Mortgage Bonds (the Bonds), of which approximately \$1.9 billion aggregate principal amount were outstanding as of June 30, 2002. Additional Bonds of any series may be issued from time to time without limit in aggregate principal amount, but not in excess of the amount authorized by our common shareholder (currently \$5.0 billion), subject to certain financial tests. As of June 30, 2002 these tests would not have further restricted our ability to issue additional Bonds in addition to those outstanding, for an aggregate principal amount of approximately \$6.9 billion.

The Senior Indenture contains no restrictions on the amount of additional indebtedness that we may incur.

Interest

General

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, each Note will bear interest from its date of issue at the rate per annum, in the case of a Fixed Rate Note, or under the interest rate formula, in the case of a Floating Rate Note, Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note, or Inverse Floating Rate Note, in each case as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, until the principal thereof is paid or duly made available for payment. Interest payments in respect of the Notes will equal the amount of interest accrued from and including the immediately preceding Interest Payment Date in respect of which interest has been paid or duly made available for payment (or from and including the date of issue, if no interest has been paid with respect to the applicable Note) to but excluding the related Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date.

Interest will be payable in arrears on each Interest Payment Date specified in the applicable pricing supplement on which an installment of interest is due and payable and on the Maturity Date. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the first payment of interest on any Note originally issued between a Record Date (as defined below) and the related Interest Payment Date or on an Interest Payment Date will be made on the Interest Payment Date immediately following the next succeeding Record Date to the Holder on the next succeeding Record Date.

So long as the Notes remain in book-entry only form, the record date for each Interest Payment Date will be the close of business on the immediately preceding business day. In the event the Notes are not in book-entry only form, the record date for each Interest Payment Date will be the close of business on the 15th calendar day prior to the applicable Interest Payment Date.

Fixed Rate Notes

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Interest Payment Dates for the Fixed Rate Notes will be May 1 and November 1 of each year. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, interest on Fixed Rate Notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months.

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If any Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date of a Fixed Rate Note falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the required payment of principal, any premium and interest will be made on the next succeeding Business Day as if made on the date the payment was due, and no interest will accrue on the payment for the period from and after the Interest Payment Date or the Maturity Date, as the case may be, to the date of the payment on the next succeeding Business Day.

Floating Rate Notes

Each Floating Rate Note will bear interest from the date of issuance until the principal thereof is paid or made available for payment at a rate determined by reference to an interest rate basis or formula based on the Index Maturity (the Base Rate), which may be adjusted by a Spread and/or Spread Multiplier (each as defined below). The applicable pricing supplement will designate one or more of the following Base Rates as applicable to each Floating Rate Note:

the CD Rate (a CD Rate Note),

the Commercial Paper Rate (a Commercial Paper Rate Note),

the Federal Funds Rate (a Federal Funds Rate Note),

LIBOR (a LIBOR Note),

the Prime Rate (a Prime Rate Note),

the Treasury Rate (a Treasury Rate Note),

the CMT Rate (a CMT Rate Note), or

some other Base Rate or interest rate formula as is set forth in the pricing supplement and in the Floating Rate Note.

The Index Maturity for any Floating Rate Note is the period to maturity of the instrument or obligation from which the Base Rate is calculated and will be specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest rate on each Floating Rate Note will be calculated by reference to the specified Base Rate (i) plus or minus the Spread, if any, and/or (ii) multiplied by the Spread Multiplier, if any. The Spread is the number of basis points (one one-hundredth of a percentage point) specified in the applicable pricing supplement to be added to or subtracted from the Base Rate for the Floating Rate Note, and the Spread Multiplier is the percentage specified in the applicable pricing supplement to be applied to the Base Rate for the Floating Rate Note.

As specified in the applicable pricing supplement, a Floating Rate Note may also have either or both of the following: (i) a maximum limitation, or ceiling, on the rate of interest which may accrue during any interest period (Maximum Interest Rate); and (ii) a minimum limitation, or floor, on the rate of interest which may accrue during any interest period (Minimum Interest Rate). In addition to any Maximum Interest Rate that may be applicable to any Floating Rate Note pursuant to the above provisions, the interest rate on a Floating Rate Note will in no event be higher than the maximum rate from time to time permitted by New York law, as the rate may be modified by United States law of general application.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the rate of interest on each Floating Rate Note will be reset daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannually or annually (that period being the Interest Reset Period for the Note, and the first day of each Interest Reset Period

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being an Interest Reset Date), as specified in the applicable pricing supplement. Unless otherwise specified in the pricing supplement, the Interest Reset Date will be, in the case of Floating Rate Notes which reset:

daily, on each Business Day;

weekly, on the Wednesday of each week (other than Treasury Rate Notes which reset the Tuesday of each week, unless otherwise provided below);

monthly, on the third Wednesday of each month;

quarterly, on the third Wednesday of March, June, September and December;

semiannually, on the third Wednesday of two months of each year, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement; and

annually, on the third Wednesday of one month of each year, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement;

provided, however, that the interest rate in effect from the date of issue to the first Interest Reset Date with respect to a Floating Rate Note will be the initial interest rate set forth in the applicable pricing supplement (the Initial Interest Rate). If any Interest Reset Date for any Floating Rate Note would otherwise be a day that is not a Business Day, the Interest Reset Date will be postponed to the next succeeding Business Day, except that in the case of a LIBOR Note, if the next succeeding Business Day is in the next succeeding calendar month, the Interest Reset Date will be the immediately preceding Business Day.

With respect to Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Notes (as defined below), the rate of interest thereon will not reset after the particular fixed rate commencement date, as set forth in the pricing supplement.

Except as provided below, unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the date on which interest on Floating Rate Notes will be payable is, in the case of Floating Rate Notes which reset:

daily, weekly or monthly, on the third Wednesday of each month, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement;

quarterly, on the third Wednesday of March, June, September and December;

semiannually, on the third Wednesday of the two months specified in the applicable pricing supplement; and

annually, on the third Wednesday of the month specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

If any Interest Payment Date for any Floating Rate Note would fall on a day that is not a Business Day with respect to that Floating Rate Note, the Interest Payment Date will be postponed to the following day that is a Business Day with respect to that Floating Rate Note, except that, in the case of a LIBOR Note, if the following Business Day is in the next succeeding calendar month, the Interest Payment Date will be the immediately preceding day that is a Business Day with respect to the LIBOR Note. If the Maturity Date of a Floating Rate Note falls on a day that is not a Business Day, the payment of principal, premium, if any, and interest will be made on the next succeeding Business Day, and no interest on the payment will accrue for the period from and after the Maturity Date.

With respect to a Floating Rate Note, accrued interest will be calculated by multiplying the principal amount of the Floating Rate Note by an accrued interest factor. The accrued interest factor will be computed by adding the interest factors

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calculated for each day in the period for which interest is being accrued. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the interest factor for each day in the interest period is computed by dividing the interest rate applicable to the day by 360, in the case of CD Rate Notes, Commercial Paper Rate Notes, Federal Funds Rate Notes, LIBOR Notes (except for LIBOR Notes denominated in pounds sterling) and Prime Rate Notes, by 365, in the case of LIBOR Notes denominated in pounds sterling, or by the actual number of days in the year, in the case of Treasury Rate Notes and CMT Rate Notes. All percentages used in or resulting from any calculation of the rate of interest on a Floating Rate Note will be rounded, if necessary, to the nearest one hundred-thousandth of a percentage point, with five one-millionths of a percentage point rounded upward, and all amounts used in or resulting from that calculation on Floating Rate Notes will be rounded, in the case of U.S. dollars, to the nearest cent or, in the case of a foreign currency, to the nearest unit (with one-half cent or unit being rounded upwards). The interest rate in effect on any Interest Reset Date will be the applicable rate as reset on that date. The interest rate applicable to any other day is the interest rate from the immediately preceding Interest Reset Date (or, if none, the Initial Interest Rate).

Unless otherwise stated in the applicable pricing supplement, the calculation agent (the Calculation Agent) with respect to any issue of Floating Rate Notes will be JPMorgan Chase Bank. Upon the request of the holder of any Floating Rate Note, the Calculation Agent will provide the interest rate then in effect and, if determined, the interest rate that will become effective on the next Interest Reset Date with respect to that Floating Rate Note.

The Interest Determination Date pertaining to an Interest Reset Date for Commercial Paper Rate Notes, Federal Funds Rate Notes and Prime Rate Notes will be the Business Day immediately preceding the related Interest Reset Date. The Interest Determination Date pertaining to an Interest Reset Date for CD Rate Notes and CMT Rate Notes will be the second Business Day next preceding that Interest Reset Date. The Interest Determination Date pertaining to an Interest Reset Date for a LIBOR Note will be the second London Business Day immediately preceding that Interest Reset Date, unless the Index Currency (as defined below) is British pounds sterling, in which case the Interest Determination Date will be the applicable Interest Reset Date. The Interest Determination Date pertaining to an Interest Reset Date for a Treasury Rate Note will be the day of the week in which that Interest Reset Date falls on which Treasury bills would normally be auctioned. Treasury bills are normally sold at auction on Monday of each week, unless that day is a legal holiday, in which case the auction is normally held on the immediately following Tuesday, but the auction may be held on the preceding Friday. If, as the result of a legal holiday, an auction is held on the preceding Friday, that Friday will be the Interest Determination Date pertaining to the Interest Reset Date occurring in the next succeeding week.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Calculation Date, where applicable, pertaining to an Interest Determination Date will be the earlier of (i) the tenth calendar day after that Interest Determination Date, or, if that day is not a Business Day, the next

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succeeding Business Day, or (ii) the Business Day preceding the applicable Interest Payment Date or Maturity Date, as the case may be.

Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Notes

If a Floating Rate Note is designated as a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note, the particular Floating Rate Note will bear interest at the rate determined by reference to the applicable Base Rate:

- plus or minus the applicable Spread, if any, and/or
- multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any.

Commencing on the first Interest Reset Date, the rate at which interest on a Floating Rate/Fixed Rate Note is payable will be reset as of each Interest Reset Date; provided, however, that:

- the interest rate in effect for the period, if any, from the date of issue to the first Interest Reset Date will be the Initial Interest Rate; and
- the interest rate in effect commencing on the fixed rate commencement date will be the fixed interest rate, if specified in the applicable pricing supplement, or, if not so specified, the interest rate in effect on the day immediately preceding the fixed rate commencement date.

Inverse Floating Rate Notes

If a Floating Rate Note is designated as an Inverse Floating Rate Note, the particular Floating Rate Note will bear interest at the fixed interest rate minus the rate determined by reference to the applicable Base Rate:

- plus or minus the applicable Spread, if any, and/or
- multiplied by the applicable Spread Multiplier, if any;

provided, however, that interest on an Inverse Floating Rate Note will not be less than zero. Commencing on the first Interest Reset Date, the rate at which interest on an Inverse Floating Rate Note is payable will be reset as of each Interest Reset Date; provided, further, that the interest rate in effect for the period, if any, from the date of issue to the first Interest Reset Date will be the Initial Interest Rate.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, interest rates will be determined by the Calculation Agent as follows:

CD Rate Notes

CD Rate Notes will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the CD Rate and the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier, if any, and subject to the Minimum Interest Rate and the Maximum Interest Rate, if any) specified in the CD Rate Notes and in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, CD Rate means, with respect to any Interest Determination Date, the rate on that date for negotiable U.S. dollar certificates of deposit having the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement as published by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in Statistical Release H.15(519), Selected Interest Rates, or any successor publication of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (H.15(519)) under the heading CDs (secondary market).

The following procedures will be followed if the CD Rate cannot be determined as described above:

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If the above rate is not published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CD Rate will be the rate on that Interest Determination Date for negotiable certificates of deposit of the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement as published in the daily update of H.15(519), available through the internet site of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System at [http:// www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/](http://www.federalreserve.gov/releases/h15/) update, or any successor site or publication (the H.15 Daily Update), or some other recognized electronic source for the purpose of displaying the rate, under the heading CDs (secondary market).

If the rate is not yet published in H.15(519), the H.15 Daily Update or some other recognized electronic source for the purpose of displaying the rate, by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CD Rate on the Interest Determination Date will be calculated by the Calculation Agent and will be the arithmetic mean of the secondary market offered rates as of 10:00 A.M., New York City time, on the Interest Determination Date for certificates of deposit in an amount that is representative for a single transaction at that time with a remaining maturity closest to the Index Maturity designated in the pricing supplement of three leading nonbank dealers in negotiable U.S. dollar certificates of deposit in New York City (which may include the Agents or their affiliates) selected by the Calculation Agent for negotiable certificates of deposit of major United States money center banks.

If the dealers selected by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as set forth above, the CD Rate in effect for the applicable period will be the same as the CD Rate for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the CD Rate Notes for which the CD Rate is being determined will be the Initial Interest Rate).

Commercial Paper Rate Notes

Commercial Paper Rate Notes will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Commercial Paper Rate and the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier, if any, and subject to the Minimum Interest Rate and the Maximum Interest Rate, if any) specified in the Commercial Paper Rate Notes and in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, Commercial Paper Rate means, with respect to any Interest Determination Date, the Money Market Yield (as defined below) of the rate on that date for commercial paper having the Index Maturity specified in the applicable pricing supplement, as the rate is published in H.15(519), under the heading Commercial Paper Nonfinancial.

The following procedures will be followed if the Commercial Paper Rate cannot be determined as described above:

If the above rate is not published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the applicable Interest Determination Date, then the Commercial Paper Rate will be the Money Market Yield of the rate on the Interest Determination Date for commercial paper of the specified Index

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Maturity as published in H.15 Daily Update or some other recognized electronic source for the purpose of displaying the rate, under the heading Commercial Paper Nonfinancial.

If by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date the rate is not yet available in either H.15(519) or H.15 Daily Update, or some other recognized electronic source for the purpose of displaying the rate, then the Commercial Paper Rate will be the Money Market Yield of the arithmetic mean of the offered rates as of 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on the Interest Determination Date of three leading dealers of U.S. dollar commercial paper in New York City (which may include the Agents or their affiliates) selected by the Calculation Agent for commercial paper of the specified Index Maturity, placed for an industrial issuer whose bond rating is AA, or the equivalent, from a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

If the dealers selected by the Calculation Agent are not quoting offered rates as mentioned above, the Commercial Paper Rate in effect for the applicable period will be the same as the Commercial Paper Rate for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the Commercial Paper Rate Notes for which the Commercial Paper Rate is being determined will be the Initial Interest Rate).

Money Market Yield will be a yield calculated in accordance with the following formula and expressed as a percentage:

Money Market Yield =

$$\frac{D \times 360}{360 - (D \times M)} \times 100$$

D = the applicable per annum rate for commercial paper quoted on a bank discount basis and expressed as a decimal, and

M = the actual number of days for which interest is being calculated.

Federal Funds Rate Notes

Federal Funds Rate Notes will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Federal Funds Rate and the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier, if any, and subject to the Minimum Interest Rate and the Maximum Interest Rate, if any) specified in the Federal Funds Rate Notes and in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Federal Funds Rate means, with respect to any Interest Determination Date, the rate on that date for U.S. dollar federal funds as published in H.15(519) under the heading Federal Funds (Effective), as that rate is displayed on Moneyline Telerate (or any successor service) (the Telerate) on page 120 (or any other page as may replace that page on the service) (Telerate Page 120).

The following procedures will be followed if the Federal Funds Rate cannot be determined as set forth above:

If the rate does not appear on Telerate Page 120 or is not so published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the Interest Determination Date, the Federal Funds Rate will be the rate on the applicable Interest Determination Date as published in the H.15 Daily Update under the heading Federal Funds/Effective Rate, or another recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying that rate, under the caption Federal Funds (Effective).

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If the rate does not appear on Telerate Page 120, or is not yet published in either H.15(519), the H.15 Daily Update, or another recognized electronic source by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the Interest Determination Date, the Federal Funds Rate for the applicable Interest Determination Date will be calculated by the Calculation Agent and will be the arithmetic mean of the rates for the last transaction in overnight U.S. dollar federal funds, as of 9:00 A.M., New York City time, on the Interest Determination Date, arranged by three leading brokers of federal funds transactions in New York City (which may include the Agents or their affiliates) selected by the Calculation Agent.

If the brokers selected by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as set forth above, the Federal Funds Rate in effect for the applicable period will be the same as the Federal Funds Rate in effect for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the Federal Funds Rate Notes for which the Federal Funds Rate is being determined shall be the Initial Interest Rate).

LIBOR Notes

LIBOR Notes will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to LIBOR and the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier, if any, and subject to the Minimum Interest Rate and the Maximum Interest Rate, if any) specified in the LIBOR Notes and in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, LIBOR for each Interest Determination Date will be determined by the Calculation Agent as follows:

If LIBOR Reuters is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, LIBOR will be the arithmetic mean of the offered rates for deposits in the Index Currency (as defined below) having the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement, commencing on the second London Business Day immediately following the applicable Interest Determination Date, that appear on the Designated LIBOR Page (as defined below) as of 11:00 A.M., London time, on that Interest Determination Date. If no such rate appears, then LIBOR will be determined by the alternative method described below. If the Designated LIBOR Page by its terms provides for a single rate, then the single rate shall be used. If, however, the terms of the Designated LIBOR Page provide for multiple rates and fewer than two such rates appear, then LIBOR will be determined by the alternative method described below. If LIBOR Telerate is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, LIBOR will be the rate for deposits in the Index Currency having the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement, commencing on the second London Business Day immediately following the applicable Interest Determination Date (or, if pounds sterling is the Index Currency, commencing on that Interest Determination Date) that appears on the Designated LIBOR Page as of 11:00 A.M., London time, on that Interest Determination Date. If no such rate appears, then LIBOR will be determined by the alternative method described below.

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Alternatively as referenced above, the Calculation Agent will request the principal London offices of each of four major reference banks (which may include affiliates of the Agents) in the London interbank market, as selected by the Calculation Agent, to provide the Calculation Agent with its offered quotation for deposits in the Index Currency for the period of the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement, commencing on the second London Business Day immediately following the applicable Interest Determination Date (or, if pounds sterling is the Index Currency, commencing on that Interest Determination Date) to prime banks in the London interbank market at approximately 11:00 A.M., London time, on the Interest Determination Date and in a principal amount of not less than \$1,000,000 (or the equivalent in the Index Currency, if the Index Currency is not the U.S. dollar) that is representative for a single transaction in the Index Currency in the market at that time. If at least two quotations are provided, LIBOR determined on that Interest Determination Date will be the arithmetic mean of the quotations. If fewer than two quotations are provided, LIBOR determined on that Interest Determination Date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates quoted at approximately 11:00 A.M. (or any other time specified in the applicable pricing supplement), in the applicable Principal Financial Center for the country of the Index Currency on the Interest Determination Date, by three major banks (which may include affiliates of the Agents) in the Principal Financial Center selected by the Calculation Agent for loans in the Index Currency to leading European banks, having the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement and in a principal amount of not less than \$1,000,000 (or the equivalent in the Index Currency, if the Index Currency is not the U.S. dollar) that is representative for a single transaction in the Index Currency in the market at that time; provided, however, that if the banks selected by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as mentioned in this sentence, LIBOR in effect for the applicable period will be the same as LIBOR for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the LIBOR Notes for which LIBOR is being determined will be the Initial Interest Rate).

Index Currency means the currency (including composite currencies) specified in the applicable pricing supplement as the currency for which LIBOR will be calculated or if the euro is substituted for that currency, the Index Currency will be the euro. If no currency is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Index Currency will be U.S. dollars.

Designated LIBOR Page means either (a) if LIBOR Reuters is designated in the applicable pricing supplement, the display on the Reuters Monitor Money Rates Service (or any successor service) for the purpose of displaying the London interbank rates of major banks for the applicable Index Currency, or (b) if LIBOR Telerate is designated (or if neither LIBOR Reuters or LIBOR Telerate is designated) in the applicable pricing supplement, the display on the Telerate for the purpose of displaying the London interbank rates of major banks for the applicable Index Currency.

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Prime Rate Notes

Prime Rate Notes will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Prime Rate and the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier, if any, and subject to the Minimum Interest Rate and the Maximum Interest Rate, if any) specified in the Prime Rate Notes and in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, Prime Rate means, with respect to any Interest Determination Date, the rate set forth in H.15(519) for that date under the caption Bank Prime Loan.

The following procedures will be followed if the Prime Rate cannot be determined as set forth above:

If the rate above is not yet published by 3:00 P.M. New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the applicable Interest Determination Date, the Prime Rate will be the rate on the applicable Interest Determination Date as published in the H.15 Daily Update, or such other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying such rate, under the caption Bank Prime Loan.

If by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date the rate is not yet available in either H.15(519) or H.15 Daily Update or another recognized electronic source, then the Prime Rate for that Interest Determination Date will be the arithmetic mean of the rates of interest publicly announced by each bank named on the Reuters Screen US PRIME 1 Page (as defined below) as that bank's prime rate or base lending rate as of 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on the Interest Determination Date as quoted on the Reuters Screen US PRIME 1 Page on the Interest Determination Date.

If fewer than four rates appear on the Reuters Screen US PRIME 1 Page for any Interest Determination Date, the rate shall be the arithmetic mean of the prime rates or base lending rates quoted on the basis of the actual number of days in the year divided by 360 as of the close of business on the applicable Interest Determination Date by three major money center banks in New York City (which may include affiliates of the Agents) selected by the Calculation Agent from which quotations are requested. If fewer than two quotations are provided, the Prime Rate will be calculated by the Calculation Agent and will be determined as the arithmetic mean on the basis of the prime rates in New York City by the appropriate number of substitute banks or trust companies organized and doing business under the laws of the United States, or any State thereof, in each case having total equity capital of at least U.S. \$500 million and being subject to supervision or examination by federal or state authority, selected by the Calculation Agent to quote the rate or rates.

If the banks or trust companies selected by the Calculation Agent are not quoting as set forth above, the Prime Rate in effect for the applicable period will be the same as the Prime Rate for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the Prime Rate Notes for which the Prime Rate is being determined will be the Initial Interest Rate).

Reuters Screen US PRIME 1 Page means the display designated as Page US PRIME 1 on the Reuters Monitor Money

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Rates Service (or any other page as may replace the US PRIME 1 Page on that service for the purpose of displaying prime rates or base lending rates of major United States banks).

Treasury Rate Notes

Treasury Rate Notes will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the Treasury Rate and the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier, if any, and subject to the Minimum Interest Rate and the Maximum Interest Rate, if any) specified in the Treasury Rate Notes and in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Treasury Rate means, with respect to any Interest Determination Date, the rate for the auction held on that date of direct obligations of the United States (Treasury Bills) having the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement under the heading **Investment Rate** on the Telerate display on page 56 or any other page as may replace that page on the service (Telerate Page 56) or page 57 or any other page as may replace that page on the service) (Telerate Page 57).

The following procedures will be followed if the Treasury Rate cannot be determined as set forth above:

If the rate above is not published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the applicable Interest Determination Date, the Treasury Rate for the Interest Determination Date will be the yield to maturity (expressed as a bond equivalent, on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as applicable, and applied on a daily basis) of the rate for the applicable Treasury Bills, published in the H.15 Daily Update, or any other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying the rate, under the caption **U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Auction High** on the Interest Determination Date, or if not so published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date, the yield to maturity (expressed as a bond equivalent, on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as applicable, and applied on a daily basis) of the auction rate of the applicable Treasury Bills as otherwise announced by the United States Department of the Treasury.

In the event that the results of the auction of Treasury Bills having the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement are not published or reported as provided above by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date or if no auction is held on the Interest Determination Date, then the Treasury Rate will be the yield to maturity (expressed as a bond equivalent, on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as applicable, and applied on a daily basis) of the rate on the Interest Determination Date of Treasury Bills having the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement as published in H.15(519), or such other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying that rate, under the caption **U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Secondary Market**.

If the rate above is not published by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the applicable Interest Determination Date, the Treasury Rate will be the yield to maturity (expressed as a bond equivalent, on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as applicable, and applied on a daily

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basis) of the rate on the Interest Determination Date of such Treasury Bills as published in the H.15 Daily Update, or other recognized electronic source used for the purpose of displaying that rate, under the caption U.S. Government Securities/Treasury Bills/Secondary Market.

If the rate above is not published in H.15(519), H.15 Daily Update, or another recognized electronic source, by 3:00 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date pertaining to the applicable Interest Determination Date, the Treasury Rate will be calculated by the Calculation Agent and will be a yield to maturity (expressed as a bond equivalent, on the basis of a year of 365 or 366 days, as applicable, and applied on a daily basis) calculated using the arithmetic mean of the secondary market bid rates, as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the Interest Determination Date, of three primary United States government securities dealers (which may include the Agents or their affiliates) selected by the Calculation Agent for the issue of Treasury Bills with a remaining maturity closest to the Index Maturity designated in the applicable pricing supplement.

If the dealers selected by the Calculation Agent are not quoting bid rates as mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the Treasury Rate for the affected Interest Reset Date will be the same as the Treasury Rate for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the Treasury Rate Notes for which the Treasury Rate is being determined will be the Initial Interest Rate).

CMT Rate Notes

CMT Rate Notes will bear interest at the interest rate (calculated with reference to the CMT Rate and the Spread and/or Spread Multiplier, if any, and subject to the Minimum Interest Rate and the Maximum Interest Rate, if any) specified in the CMT Rate Notes and in the applicable pricing supplement.

Unless otherwise indicated in an applicable pricing supplement, if CMT Telerate Page 7051 is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the CMT Rate means the percentage equal to the yield for U.S. Treasury securities at constant maturity having the Index Maturity specified in the applicable pricing supplement as published in H.15(519) under the caption Treasury Constant Maturities, as the yield is displayed on the Telerate on page 7051 (or any other page as may replace the specified page on that service) (Telerate Page 7051), for the particular Interest Determination Date. The following paragraphs detail the procedures to be followed in the event that CMT Telerate Page 7051 is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, but the foregoing method for determining the CMT Rate is not available.

If the rate referred to in the preceding paragraph does not so appear on Telerate Page 7051 by 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date for the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CMT Rate will be the percentage equal to the yield for U.S. Treasury securities at constant maturity having the particular Index Maturity and for the particular Interest Determination Date as published in H.15(519) under the caption Treasury Constant Maturities.

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If the rate referred to in the preceding paragraph does not so appear in H.15(519) by 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date for the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date for the period of the particular Index Maturity as may then be published by either the Federal Reserve System Board of Governors or the U.S. Department of the Treasury that the Calculation Agent determines to be comparable to the rate which would otherwise have been published in H.15(519).

If the rate referred to in the preceding paragraph is not so published by 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date for the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent as a yield to maturity based on the arithmetic mean of the secondary market bid prices at approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on that Interest Determination Date of three leading primary U.S. government securities dealers in New York City, (which may include the Agents or their affiliates) (each, a Reference Dealer), selected by the Calculation Agent from five Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent and eliminating the highest quotation, or, in the event of equality, one of the highest, and the lowest quotation or, in the event of equality, one of the lowest, for U.S. Treasury securities with an original maturity equal to the particular Index Maturity, a remaining term to maturity no more than one year shorter than that Index Maturity and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in the securities in that market at that time.

If fewer than five but more than two of the prices referred to in the preceding paragraph are provided as requested, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent based on the arithmetic mean of the bid prices obtained and neither the highest nor the lowest of the quotations will be eliminated.

If fewer than three of the prices referred to two paragraphs above are provided as requested, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent as a yield to maturity based on the arithmetic mean of the secondary market bid prices as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on that Interest Determination Date of three Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent from five Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent and eliminating the highest quotation or, in the event of equality, one of the highest and the lowest quotation or, in the event of equality, one of the lowest, for U.S. Treasury securities with an original maturity greater than the particular Index Maturity, a remaining term to maturity closest to that Index Maturity and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in the securities in that market at that time.

If fewer than five but more than two prices referred to in the preceding paragraph are provided as requested, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent based on the arithmetic mean of the bid prices obtained and neither the highest nor the lowest of the quotations will be eliminated.

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If fewer than three prices referred to two paragraphs above are provided as requested, the CMT Rate for the applicable Interest Reset Date will be the same as the CMT Rate for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the CMT Rate Notes for which the CMT Rate is being determined will be the Initial Interest Rate).

Unless otherwise indicated in an applicable pricing supplement, if CMT Telerate Page 7052 is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, CMT Rate means the percentage equal to the one-week or one-month, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, average yield for U.S. Treasury securities at constant maturity having the Index Maturity specified in the applicable pricing supplement as published in H.15(519) opposite the caption Treasury Constant Maturities, as the yield is displayed on the Telerate on page 7052 (or any other page as may replace the specified page on that service) (Telerate Page 7052), for the week or month, as applicable, ended immediately preceding the week or month, as applicable, in which the particular Interest Determination Date falls. The following paragraphs detail the procedures to be followed in the event that CMT Telerate Page 7052 is specified in the applicable pricing supplement, but the foregoing method for determining the CMT Rate is not available.

If the rate referred to in the preceding paragraph does not so appear on Telerate Page 7052 by 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date for the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CMT Rate will be the percentage equal to the one-week or one-month, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, average yield for U.S. Treasury securities at constant maturity having the particular Index Maturity and for the week or month, as applicable, preceding the particular Interest Determination Date as published in H.15(519) opposite the caption Treasury Constant Maturities.

If the rate referred to in the preceding paragraph does not so appear in H.15(519) by 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date for the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CMT Rate will be the one-week or one-month, as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, average yield for U.S. Treasury securities at constant maturity having the particular Index Maturity as otherwise announced by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the week or month, as applicable, ended immediately preceding the week or month, as applicable, in which the particular Interest Determination Date falls.

If the rate referred to in the preceding paragraph is not so published by 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on the Calculation Date for the applicable Interest Determination Date, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent as a yield to maturity based on the arithmetic mean of the secondary market bid prices at approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on that Interest Determination Date of three Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent from five Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent and eliminating the highest quotation, or, in the event of equality, one of the highest, and the lowest quotation or, in

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the event of equality, one of the lowest, for U.S. Treasury securities with an original maturity equal to the particular Index Maturity, a remaining term to maturity no more than one year shorter than that Index Maturity and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in the securities in that market at that time.

If fewer than five but more than two of the prices referred to in the preceding paragraph are provided as requested, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent based on the arithmetic mean of the bid prices obtained and neither the highest nor the lowest of the quotations will be eliminated.

If fewer than three prices referred to two paragraphs above are provided as requested, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent as a yield to maturity based on the arithmetic mean of the secondary market bid prices as of approximately 3:30 P.M., New York City time, on that Interest Determination Date of three Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent from five Reference Dealers selected by the Calculation Agent and eliminating the highest quotation or, in the event of equality, one of the highest and the lowest quotation or, in the event of equality, one of the lowest, for U.S. Treasury securities with an original maturity greater than the particular Index Maturity, a remaining term to maturity closest to that Index Maturity and in a principal amount that is representative for a single transaction in the securities in that market at that time.

If fewer than five but more than two prices referred to in the preceding paragraph are provided as requested, the CMT Rate will be the rate on the particular Interest Determination Date calculated by the Calculation Agent based on the arithmetic mean of the bid prices obtained and neither the highest or the lowest of the quotations will be eliminated.

If fewer than three prices referred to two paragraphs above are provided as requested, the CMT Rate for the applicable Interest Reset Date will be the same as the CMT Rate for the immediately preceding Interest Reset Period (or, if there was no Interest Reset Period, the rate of interest payable on the CMT Rate Notes for which the CMT Rate is being determined will be the Initial Interest Rate).

For purposes of the above calculations (whether CMT Telerate Page 7051 or CMT Telerate Page 7052 is specified in the applicable pricing supplement), if two U.S. Treasury securities with an original maturity greater than the Index Maturity specified in the applicable pricing supplement have remaining terms to maturity equally close to the particular Index Maturity, the quotes for the U.S. Treasury security with the shorter remaining term to maturity will be used.

If no CMT Telerate Page is specified in the applicable pricing supplement CMT Telerate Page 7052, for the most recent week, will be deemed specified.

Purchase Price; Registered Form; Minimum Denomination

Each Note will be issued for a purchase price equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof (unless otherwise provided in the applicable pricing supplement) in fully registered certificated or book-entry form.

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Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, each Note will be issued in a minimum denomination of \$25 or \$1,000 in U.S. dollars as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, and integral multiples of such denomination in excess thereof. In the case of a Note denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars, unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the minimum denomination will be the equivalent of \$25 or \$1,000 in U.S. dollars as specified in the applicable pricing supplement, in the Specified Currency, as determined by application of the Market Exchange Rate on the Business Day immediately preceding the trade date for the Notes.

Redemption or Conversion

No Note will be subject to conversion, amortization, or any sinking fund, unless otherwise provided in the applicable pricing supplement. The Notes will be subject to redemption by the Company on and after their respective Redemption Dates, if any. Redemption Dates and the applicable Redemption Prices, if any, will be fixed at the time of sale and set forth in the applicable pricing supplement and on the applicable Note. If no Redemption Date or Redemption Price is indicated with respect to a Note, the Note will not be redeemable prior to its Stated Maturity Date. On and after the Redemption Date, the applicable Note will be redeemable in whole or in part (provided that any remaining principal amount of the Note will be equal to an authorized denomination thereof) at the option of the Company at the applicable Redemption Price, together with interest thereon payable to the date of redemption, on notice given not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of redemption.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a date prior to which the Company may not redeem the Note as a part of, or in anticipation of, a refunding operation (Limitation Date) is specified in the applicable pricing supplement and on the applicable Note, the Company may not redeem the Note prior to the Limitation Date as a part of, or in anticipation of, any refunding operation by the application, directly or indirectly, of monies borrowed having an interest cost to the Company of less than the rate (Refunding Rate) specified in the pricing supplement and on the applicable Note.

Repayment at the Option of the Holder; Repurchases by the Company

The Notes will be repayable by the Company at the option of the Holders thereof prior to the Stated Maturity Date only if one or more Repayment Dates are specified in the applicable pricing supplement. If so specified, the Notes will be subject to repayment at the option of the Holders thereof on any Repayment Date in whole or in part from time to time in increments of \$1,000 or any other integral multiple of an authorized denomination specified in the applicable pricing supplement (provided that any remaining principal amount thereof must be at least \$1,000 or any other minimum authorized denomination applicable thereto), at a repayment price equal to 100% of the unpaid principal amount to be repaid, together with unpaid interest accrued thereon to the date of repayment. For any Note to be repaid, the Trustee must receive, at its office maintained for that purpose in the Borough of Manhattan, The City of New York (currently located at GIS Unit Trust Window, 4 New York Plaza, 1st Floor,

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New York, New York 10024-2413) not more than 60 nor less than 30 calendar days prior to the date of repayment, (i) in the case of a certificated Note, the certificated Note and the form thereon entitled Option to Elect Repayment duly completed or (ii) in the case of a Book-Entry Note, instructions to that effect from the applicable Beneficial Owner (as hereinafter defined) to the Depository and forwarded by the Depository. Exercise of the repayment option by the Holder will be irrevocable.

Only the Depository may exercise the repayment option in respect of beneficial interests in the Book-Entry Notes. Accordingly, Beneficial Owners that desire repayment in respect of all or any portion of their beneficial interests must instruct the Participant (as hereinafter defined) through which they own their interests to direct the Depository to exercise the repayment option on their behalf. In order to ensure that the instructions are received by the Trustee on a particular day, the applicable Beneficial Owner must so instruct the Participant through which it owns its interest before the Participant's deadline for accepting instructions for that day. Different firms may have different deadlines for accepting instructions from their customers. Accordingly, Beneficial Owners should consult the Participants through which they own their interests for the respective deadlines for each of the applicable Participants. All instructions given to Participants from Beneficial Owners relating to the option to elect repayment will be irrevocable. In addition, at the time the instructions are given, each Beneficial Owner must cause the Participant through which it owns its interest to transfer its interest in the Book-Entry Notes or Securities representing the related Book-Entry Notes, on the Depository's records, to the Trustee. See Book-Entry Notes .

If applicable, the Company will comply with the requirements of Section 14(e) of the Exchange Act, and the rules promulgated thereunder, and any other securities laws or regulations in connection with any repayment.

The Company may at any time purchase Notes at any price or prices in the open market or otherwise. Notes purchased by the Company in this manner may, at the discretion of the Company, be held, resold or surrendered to the Trustee for cancellation.

Payment of Principal, Premium and Interest

Payments of principal, any premium, and interest on all Notes will be made by the Company to the registered owners of the Notes, which in the case of Book-Entry Notes is the Depository or its nominee. Neither the Company nor the Trustee will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in a Book-Entry Note, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial ownership interests. The Company expects that the Depository, upon receipt of any payment of principal, any premium or interest in respect of a Book-Entry Note, will credit immediately the accounts of the related Participants with payment in amounts proportionate to their respective holdings in principal amount of beneficial interest in the Book-Entry Note as shown on the records of the Depository. The Company also expects that payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing customer instructions and customary practices, as is now the case with securities

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held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in street name, and will be the responsibility of the Participants.

Payments of principal, any premium and interest on all Notes will be made in the applicable Specified Currency. Any amounts payable by the Company in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars will be converted by the exchange rate agent named in the applicable pricing supplement (Exchange Rate Agent) into U.S. dollars for payment to Holders unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement or the Holder of the Note elects, in the manner described below, to receive those amounts in the Specified Currency. Payments of principal of and interest on Notes made in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars will be made by wire transfer to an account designated by the Holder at a bank outside of the United States. Payments of principal, any premium and interest on Notes paid in U.S. dollars and issued in certificated form will be made by wire transfer to an account designated by the Holder or, in the absence of a designation, by check mailed to the address of the Holder as it appears on the Security Register maintained by the Trustee acting in its capacity as Security Registrar for the Notes. The Holder will make its designation by filing the appropriate information with the Trustee at its Corporate Trust Office in New York City on or prior to the Record Date for an Interest Payment Date or at least 16 days prior to the Maturity Date, or with respect to Notes denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars, in connection with any transfer after the 16th day prior to the Maturity Date. Until a Note is transferred or until the Trustee receives notice to the contrary, the Trustee will make the payment and all succeeding payments to the Holders of Notes by wire transfer to the designated account. Payments of interest with respect to Notes will be made to the Holder appearing on the Security Register on the applicable Record Date or, in the case of interest payable at the Maturity Date, to the person to whom principal is payable.

In the case of a Note issued between a Record Date and the Interest Payment Date relating to that Record Date, interest for the period beginning on the date of issue and ending on that Interest Payment Date will be paid to the Holder appearing on the Security Register on the next succeeding Record Date. Payments of the principal, any premium and interest on a Note at the Maturity Date will be made in immediately available funds (at a bank outside the United States, in the case of payments made in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars) in the Specified Currency, upon surrender of the Note to the Trustee. See IMPORTANT CURRENCY INFORMATION and RISK FACTORS.

The Trustee maintains in the Borough of Manhattan, the City of New York, an office where Notes may be presented for payment and may be transferred or exchanged. Principal, any premium and interest at the Maturity Date will be payable, and Notes will be transferable, at the Corporate Trust Office of the Trustee, which presently is located at GIS Unit Trust Window, 4 New York Plaza, 1st Floor, New York, New York 10024-2413.

Book-Entry Notes

The Company has established a depository arrangement with the Depository with respect to the Book-Entry Notes, the terms of which are summarized below. If there are any additional or differing terms of the depository arrangement with respect to the Book-Entry Notes, they will be described in the applicable pricing supplement.

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Book-Entry Notes of like tenor and terms up to \$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount may be represented by a single global security. Each global security will be deposited with, or on behalf of, the Depository and registered in the name of the Depository or its nominee. Except as described below, a global security may not be transferred unless it is transferred as a whole by the Depository to a nominee, or by a nominee to either (i) the Depository, or (ii) another nominee, or (iii) successors of the Depository or nominee.

So long as the Depository or its nominee is the registered owner of a global security representing Book-Entry Notes, the Depository or its nominee, as the case may be, will be the sole holder of the Book-Entry Notes represented by that global security for all purposes under the Indenture. Except as provided below, Beneficial Owners will not be entitled to have Notes registered in their names, will not receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of Notes in certificated form and will not be considered the owners or holders thereof for any purpose under the Indenture, and no global security representing Book-Entry Notes will be exchangeable or transferable. Accordingly, each Beneficial Owner must rely on the procedures of the Depository, and if a Beneficial Owner is not a Participant, on the procedures of the Participant through which that Beneficial Owner owns its interest in order to exercise any rights of a holder under the global security or the Indenture. The laws of some jurisdictions require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in certificated form. These limits and laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in a global security representing Book-Entry Notes.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, each global security representing Book-Entry Notes will be exchangeable for certificated Notes of like tenor and terms and of differing authorized denominations in a like aggregate principal amount, only if:

the Depository notifies the Company that it is unwilling or unable to continue as Depository for the global securities or the Company is aware that the Depository has ceased to be a clearing agency registered under the Exchange Act and, in any case, the Company has not appointed a successor to the Depository within 90 calendar days thereafter;

or

the Company, in its sole discretion, determines that the global securities will be exchangeable for certificated Notes.

Upon any exchange, the certificated Notes will be registered in the names of the Beneficial Owners of the global security or securities representing Book-Entry Notes, which names will be provided by the Depository's relevant Participants (as identified by the Depository to the Trustee).

The following is based on information furnished to the Company and the Agents by the Depository:

The Depository will act as securities depository for the Book-Entry Notes. The Book-Entry Notes will be issued as fully registered securities registered in the name of Cede & Co., the Depository's partnership nominee. One fully registered global security will be issued for each issue of Book-Entry Notes, each in the aggregate principal amount of the issue, and will be deposited with the Depository. If, however, the aggregate principal amount of any issue

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exceeds \$500,000,000, one global security will be issued with respect to each \$500,000,000 of principal amount and an additional global security will be issued with respect to any remaining principal amount of the issue.

The Depository is a limited-purpose trust company organized under the New York Banking Law, a banking organization within the meaning of the New York Banking Law, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a clearing corporation within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code, and a clearing agency registered pursuant to the provisions of Section 17A of the Exchange Act. The Depository holds securities that its participants (Direct Participants) deposit with the Depository. The Depository also facilitates the settlement among Direct Participants of securities transactions, such as transfers and pledges, in deposited securities through electronic computerized book-entry changes in Direct Participants' accounts, thereby eliminating the need for physical movement of securities certificates. Direct Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations, and certain other organizations. The Depository is owned by a number of its Direct Participants and by The New York Stock Exchange, Inc., the American Stock Exchange LLC, and the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Access to the Depository system is also available to others such as securities brokers and dealers, banks, and trust companies that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a Direct Participant, either directly or indirectly (Indirect Participants). The rules applicable to the Depository and its Direct and Indirect Participants are on file with the SEC.

Purchases of Book-Entry Notes under the Depository system must be made by or through Direct Participants, who will receive a credit for the Book-Entry Notes on the Depository records. The ownership interest of each actual purchaser of each Book-Entry Note (Beneficial Owner) is in turn to be recorded on the Direct and Indirect Participants records. Beneficial Owners will not receive written confirmation from the Depository of their purchase, but Beneficial Owners are expected to receive written confirmations providing details of the transaction, as well as periodic statements of their holdings, from the Direct or Indirect Participant through which the Beneficial Owner entered into the transaction. Transfers of ownership interests in the Book-Entry Notes are to be accomplished by entries made on the books of Direct and Indirect Participants acting on behalf of Beneficial Owners. Beneficial Owners will not receive certificates representing their ownership interests in Book-Entry Notes, except in the event that use of the book-entry system for the Book-Entry Notes is discontinued.

To facilitate subsequent transfers, all Book-Entry Notes deposited by Direct Participants with the Depository are registered in the name of the Depository partnership nominee, Cede & Co., or such other name as may be requested by an authorized representative of the Depository. The

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deposit of Book-Entry Notes with the Depository and their registration in the name of Cede & Co. or such other nominee do not effect any change in beneficial ownership. The Depository has no knowledge of the actual Beneficial Owners of the Book-Entry Notes; the Depository records reflect only the identity of the Direct Participants to whose accounts such Book-Entry Notes are credited, which may or may not be the Beneficial Owners. The Direct and Indirect Participants will remain responsible for keeping account of their holdings on behalf of their customers.

Conveyance of notices and other communications by the Depository to Direct Participants, by Direct Participants to Indirect Participants, and by Direct Participants and Indirect Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by arrangements among them, subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time.

Neither the Depository nor Cede & Co. (nor any other the Depository nominee) will consent or vote with respect to the Book-Entry Notes. Under its usual procedures, the Depository mails an omnibus proxy to the Company as soon as possible after the record date. The omnibus proxy assigns Cede & Co.'s consenting or voting rights to those Direct Participants to whose accounts the Book-Entry Notes are credited on the record date (identified in a listing attached to the omnibus proxy).

Redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividend payments on the Book-Entry Notes will be made to Cede & Co., or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of the Depository. The Depository's practice is to credit Direct Participants' accounts, upon the Depository's receipt of funds and corresponding detail information from the Company or its agent on the payable date in accordance with their respective holdings shown on the Depository's records. Payments by Participants to Beneficial Owners will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices, as is the case with securities held for the accounts of customers in bearer form or registered in street name, and will be the responsibility of such Participant and not of the Depository, the Company or its agent subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. Payment of redemption proceeds, distributions, and dividends to Cede & Co. (or such other nominee as may be requested by an authorized representative of the Depository) is the responsibility of the Company or its agent, disbursement of such payments to Direct Participants will be the responsibility of the Depository, and disbursement of such payments to the Beneficial Owners will be the responsibility of Direct and Indirect Participants.

The Depository may discontinue providing its services as securities depository with respect to the securities at any time by giving reasonable notice to the Company or its agent. Under such circumstances, if a successor securities depository is not obtained, Book-Entry Note certificates are required to be printed and delivered.

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The Company may decide to discontinue use of the system of book-entry transfers through the Depository (or a successor securities depository). In that event, Book-Entry Note certificates will be printed and delivered.

The information in this section concerning the Depository and the Depository's book-entry system has been obtained from sources that we believe to be reliable, but the Company takes no responsibility for the accuracy thereof.

We have no responsibility for the performance by the Depository or its Participants of their respective obligations as described in this prospectus supplement or under the rules and procedures governing their respective operations.

The Trustee

The trustee under the Senior Indenture is JPMorgan Chase Bank. JPMorgan Chase Bank also serves as trustee under other indentures pursuant to which securities of certain of the Company's affiliates are outstanding. Affiliates of JPMorgan Chase Bank have purchased, and are likely to purchase in the future, our securities and securities of our affiliates.

Listing

The Notes will not be listed on any national or regional securities exchange.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO NOTES DENOMINATED IN A SPECIFIED CURRENCY OTHER THAN U.S. DOLLARS

General

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, Notes denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars will not be sold in, or to residents of, the country issuing the Specified Currency. The information set forth in this prospectus is directed to prospective purchasers who are United States residents and, with respect to Notes denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars, is by necessity incomplete. The Company and the Agents disclaim any responsibility to advise prospective purchasers who are residents of countries other than the United States with respect to any matters that may affect the purchase, holding or receipt of payments of principal, any premium and interest on Notes denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars. These persons should consult their own financial and legal advisors with regard to these matters. See RISK FACTORS and IMPORTANT CURRENCY INFORMATION.

Payment of Principal, Premium and Interest

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, the Company is obligated to make payments of principal, any premium and interest on a Note in the Specified Currency. Any amounts payable by the Company in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars will be converted by the Exchange Rate Agent into U.S. dollars for payment to Holders unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement or the Holder of the Note elects, in the manner described below, to receive those amounts in the Specified Currency.

The U.S. dollar amount to be received by a Holder of a Note denominated in a

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Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars who does not elect to receive one or more payments of principal, any premium and interest in the Specified Currency will be based on a bid quotation in New York City received by the Exchange Rate Agent as of 11:00 A.M., New York City time, on the second Business Day preceding the applicable payment date from a recognized foreign exchange dealer (which may be the Exchange Rate Agent) for the purchase by the quoting dealer of the Specified Currency for U.S. dollars for settlement on the applicable payment date in the aggregate amount of the U.S. dollars payable to all Holders of Notes scheduled to receive U.S. dollar payments and at which the applicable dealer commits to execute a contract. If a bid quotation is not available, payments will be made in the Specified Currency. All currency exchange costs in respect of any payment will be borne by the Holder of the Note to which the payment relates by deduction from that payment.

The Holder of a Note denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars may elect to receive payment of the principal, any premium and interest on the Note in the Specified Currency by transmitting a written request for payment to the Trustee at its Corporate Trust Office in New York City on or prior to the Regular Record Date or at least 16 calendar days prior to the Maturity Date. The written request may be mailed or hand delivered or sent by cable, telex or other form of facsimile transmission. The Holder of a Note denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars may elect to receive payment in the Specified Currency for all principal any premium and interest payments and need not file a separate election for each payment. This election will remain in effect until the Note is transferred or until the election is changed by written notice to the Trustee, but written notice of any change must be received by the Trustee on or prior to the Record Date or at least 16 calendar days prior to the Maturity Date. Holders of Notes denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars whose Notes are to be held in the name of a broker or nominee should contact that broker or nominee to determine whether and how an election to receive payments in U.S. dollars may be made.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, if the Specified Currency is other than U.S. dollars, a Beneficial Owner which elects to receive payments of principal, any premium and/or interest in the Specified Currency must notify the Participant through which it owns its interest on or prior to the applicable Record Date or at least 15 calendar days prior to the Maturity Date, as the case may be, of its election. The applicable Participant must notify the Depository of the election on or prior to the third Business Day after the applicable Record Date or at least 12 calendar days prior to the Maturity Date, as the case may be, and the Depository will notify the Trustee of the election on or prior to the fifth Business Day after the Record Date or at least 10 calendar days prior to the Maturity Date, as the case may be. If complete instructions are received by the Participant from the Beneficial Owner and forwarded by the Participant to the Depository, and by the Depository to the Trustee, on or prior to the applicable dates, then the affected Beneficial Owner will receive payments in the Specified Currency.

In order for a Holder of a Note who has elected to receive payments of principal, any premium and interest in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars to receive

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payments by wire transfer, the Holder must designate an appropriate account with a bank located in the country of the Specified Currency. The designation should be made by filing the appropriate information with the Trustee at its Corporate Trust Office in New York City on or prior to the Record Date for an Interest Payment Date or at least 16 calendar days prior to the Maturity Date or in connection with any transfer after the 16th day. Until the Note is transferred or until the Trustee receives notice to the contrary, the Trustee will make the payments to the Holder by wire transfer to the designated account. If a payment cannot be made by wire transfer because the required information has not been received by the Trustee on or before the requisite date, a notice will be mailed to the Holder at its registered address requesting the relevant information, and no payment will be made until a designation is made. The Company will pay any administrative costs imposed by banks in connection with making wire transfers of payments, but any tax, assessment, governmental or other charges imposed upon the payments will be borne by the Holder of the Note in respect of which the payment is made and deducted from the payment.

Availability of Specified Currency

If the Specified Currency for a Note denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars is not available for the required payment of principal, any premium and/or interest in respect thereof due to the imposition of exchange controls or other circumstances beyond the control of the Company, the Company will be entitled to satisfy its obligations to the Holder of the Note by making the payment in U.S. dollars on the basis of the Market Exchange Rate, computed by the Exchange Rate Agent, on the second Business Day prior to payment or, if the Market Exchange Rate is not then available, on the basis of the most recently available Market Exchange Rate, or as otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement.

The Market Exchange Rate for a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars means the noon dollar buying rate in the City of New York for cable transfers for the Specified Currency as certified for customs purposes (or, if not so certified, as otherwise determined) by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Any payment made in U.S. dollars under those circumstances where the required payment is in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars will not constitute an Event of Default under the Indenture with respect to the Notes.

All determinations referred to above made by the Exchange Rate Agent will be at its sole discretion and will, in the absence of manifest error, be conclusive for all purposes and binding on the Holders of Notes denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars. See RISK FACTORS and IMPORTANT CURRENCY INFORMATION.

Judgments

Under current New York law, a state court in the State of New York rendering a judgment in respect of a Note denominated in a Specified Currency other than U.S. dollars would be required to render the judgment in the Specified Currency, and the judgment would be converted into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of entry of the judgment. Accordingly, the Holder of the Note would be subject to exchange rate fluctuations between the date of entry of a judgment in a foreign currency

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and the time the amount of the foreign currency judgment is paid to the Holder in U.S. dollars and converted by the Holder into the Specified Currency. It is not certain, however, whether a non-New York state court would follow the same rules and procedures with respect to conversions of foreign currency judgments.

CERTAIN UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSIDERATIONS

The following discussion represents the opinion of McGuireWoods LLP, counsel to the Company, regarding certain United States Federal income tax consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the Notes. This discussion is based upon the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Code), proposed and final regulations, rulings and judicial and administrative decisions in effect, all of which are subject to change possibly with retroactive effect or possible differing interpretations. This discussion deals only with Notes held as capital assets by original purchasers who are U.S. Holders (as defined below) and does not purport to deal with persons in special tax situations, such as banks, thrift institutions, real estate investment trusts, personal holding companies, insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations regulated investment companies, dealers in securities or currencies, traders in securities that elect to use a mark-to-market method of accounting for securities holdings, persons holding Notes as a hedge or that are hedged against interest rate or against currency risks or as a position in a straddle for tax purposes, or persons whose functional currency is not the United States dollar. This discussion does not address any state, local or foreign tax issues.

Persons considering the purchase of the Notes should consult their own tax advisors concerning the application of United States federal income tax laws to their particular situations as well as any consequences of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the Notes arising under the laws of any other taxing jurisdiction.

As used herein, the term U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of a Note that is for United States federal income tax purposes (i) a citizen or individual resident of the United States, (ii) a corporation, partnership or other entity created or organized in or under the laws of the United States, any state thereof or the District of Columbia (other than a partnership that is not treated as a United States person under any applicable Treasury regulations), (iii) an estate whose income is subject to United States federal income tax regardless of its source or (iv) a trust if a court within the United States is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust. Notwithstanding the preceding clause (iv), to the extent provided in regulations, certain trusts in existence on August 20, 1996 and treated as United States persons prior to that date that elect to continue to be so treated also will be considered U.S. Holders. As used herein, the term non-U.S. Holder means a beneficial owner of a Note that is not a U.S. Holder.

Payments of Interest

Except as provided below under Original Issue Discount, payments of interest on a Note generally will be taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income at the time the payments are accrued or are received (in accordance with the U.S. Holder's regular method of tax accounting).

Table of Contents**Original Issue Discount**

Certain Notes may be issued with original issue discount (Original Issue Discount Notes) within the meaning of section 1273(a) of the Code. The following summary is a general discussion of the United States federal income tax consequences to U.S. Holders of the purchase, ownership and disposition of Notes issued with original issue discount. The following summary is based upon final Treasury regulations (the OID Regulations) released by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) under the original issue discount provisions of the Code.

For United States federal income tax purposes, original issue discount is the excess of the stated redemption price at maturity of a Note over its issue price, if the excess equals or exceeds a *de minimis* amount (generally $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1% of the Note's stated redemption price at maturity multiplied by the number of complete years to its maturity from its issue date or, in the case of a Note providing for the payment of any amount other than qualified stated interest (as defined below) prior to maturity, multiplied by the weighted average maturity of that Note). The issue price of each Note in an issue of Notes equals the first price at which a substantial amount of the Notes of that issue has been sold (ignoring sales to bond houses, brokers, or similar persons or organizations acting in the capacity of underwriters, placement agents, or wholesalers). The stated redemption price at maturity of a Note is the sum of all payments provided by the Note other than qualified stated interest payments. The term qualified stated interest generally means stated interest that is unconditionally payable in cash or property (other than debt instruments of the issuer) at least annually at a single fixed rate. In addition, under the OID Regulations, if a Note bears interest for one or more accrual periods at a rate below the rate applicable for the remaining term of that Note (e.g., Notes with teaser rates or interest holidays), and if the greater of either the resulting foregone interest on that Note or any true discount on that Note (i.e., the excess of the Note's stated principal amount over its issue price) equals or exceeds a specified *de minimis* amount, then the stated interest on the Note would be treated as original issue discount rather than qualified stated interest.

Payments of qualified stated interest on a Note are taxable to a U.S. Holder as ordinary interest income at the time the payments are accrued or are received (in accordance with the U.S. Holder's regular method of tax accounting). A U.S. Holder of an Original Issue Discount Note must include original issue discount in income as ordinary interest income for United States federal income tax purposes as it accrues under a constant yield method in advance of receipt of the cash payments attributable to that income, regardless of the U.S. Holder's regular method of tax accounting. In general, the amount of original issue discount included in income by the initial U.S. Holder of an Original Issue Discount Note is the sum of the daily portions of original issue discount with respect to the Original Issue Discount Note for each day during the taxable year (or portion of the taxable year) on which the U.S. Holder held the Original Issue Discount Note. The daily portion of original issue discount on any Original Issue Discount Note is determined by allocating to each day in any accrual period a ratable portion of the original issue discount allocable to that accrual period. An accrual period may be of any length and the accrual periods may vary in length over the

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term of the Original Issue Discount Note, provided that each accrual period is no longer than one year and each scheduled payment of principal or interest occurs either on the final day of an accrual period or on the first day of an accrual period. The amount of original issue discount allocable to each accrual period is generally equal to the difference between (i) the product of the Original Issue Discount Note's adjusted issue price at the beginning of the applicable accrual period and its yield to maturity (determined on the basis of compounding at the close of each accrual period and appropriately adjusted to take into account the length of the particular accrual period) and (ii) the amount of any qualified stated interest payments allocable to the applicable accrual period. The adjusted issue price of an Original Issue Discount Note at the beginning of any accrual period is the sum of the issue price of the Original Issue Discount Note plus the amount of original issue discount allocable to all prior accrual periods minus the amount of any prior payments on the Original Issue Discount Note that were not qualified stated interest payments. Under these rules, U.S. Holders generally will have to include in income increasingly greater amounts of original issue discount in successive accrual periods.

A U.S. Holder who purchases an Original Issue Discount Note for an amount that is greater than its adjusted issue price as of the purchase date and less than or equal to the sum of all amounts payable on the Original Issue Discount Note after the purchase date other than payments of qualified stated interest, will be considered to have purchased the Original Issue Discount Note at an acquisition premium. Under the acquisition premium rules, the amount of original issue discount which the U.S. Holder generally must include in its gross income with respect to the Original Issue Discount Note for any taxable year (or portion thereof in which the U.S. Holder holds the Original Issue Discount Note) will be reduced (but not below zero) by the portion of the acquisition premium properly allocable to the period.

Under the OID Regulations, Floating Rate Notes and Indexed Notes (Variable Notes) are subject to special rules whereby a Variable Note will qualify as a variable rate debt instrument if, among other things, (a) its issue price does not exceed the total noncontingent principal payments due under the Variable Note by more than a specified *de minimis* amount and (b) it provides for stated interest, paid or compounded at least annually, at current values of (i) one or more qualified floating rates, (ii) a single fixed rate and one or more qualified floating rates, (iii) a single objective rate, or (iv) a single fixed rate and a single objective rate that is a qualified inverse floating rate.

A qualified floating rate is any variable rate where variations in the value of the rate can reasonably be expected to measure contemporaneous variations in the cost of newly borrowed funds in the currency in which the Variable Note is denominated. Although a multiple of a qualified floating rate will generally not itself constitute a qualified floating rate, a variable rate equal to the product of a qualified floating rate and a fixed multiple that is greater than .65 but not more than 1.35 will constitute a qualified floating rate. A variable rate equal to the product of a qualified floating rate and a fixed multiple that is greater than 0.65 but not more than 1.35, increased or decreased by a fixed rate, will also constitute a qualified floating rate. In addition, under the OID Regulations, two or more qualified floating rates that can reasonably be

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expected to have approximately the same values throughout the term of the Variable Note (e.g., two or more qualified floating rates with values within 25 basis points of each other as determined on the Variable Note's issue date) will be treated as a single qualified floating rate. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a variable rate that would otherwise constitute a qualified floating rate but which is subject to one or more restrictions such as a maximum numerical limitation (i.e., a cap) or a minimum numerical limitation (i.e., a floor) may, under certain circumstances, fail to be treated as a qualified floating rate under the OID Regulations unless the cap or floor is fixed throughout the term of the Note or is not reasonably expected to affect significantly the yield on the Note. An objective rate is a rate that is not itself a qualified floating rate but which is determined using a single fixed formula and that is based on objective financial or economic information. A rate will not qualify as an objective rate if it is based on information that is within the control of the issuer (or a related party) or that is unique to the circumstances of the issuer (or a related party), such as dividends, profits, or the value of the issuer's stock (although a rate does not fail to be an objective rate merely because it is based on the credit quality of the issuer). A qualified inverse floating rate is any objective rate where the rate is equal to a fixed rate minus a qualified floating rate, as long as variations in the rate can reasonably be expected to inversely reflect contemporaneous variations in the qualified floating rate.

The OID Regulations also provide that if a Variable Note provides for stated interest at a fixed rate for an initial period of one year or less followed by a variable rate that is either a qualified floating rate or an objective rate and if the variable rate on the Variable Note's issue date is intended to approximate the fixed rate (e.g., the value of the variable rate on the issue date does not differ from the value of the fixed rate by more than 25 basis points), then the fixed rate and the variable rate together will constitute either a single qualified floating rate or objective rate, as the case may be.

If a Variable Note that provides for stated interest at either a single qualified floating rate or a single objective rate throughout the term thereof qualifies as a variable rate debt instrument under the OID Regulations and if the interest on the Note is unconditionally payable in cash or property (other than debt instruments of the issuer) at least annually, then all stated interest on the Note will constitute qualified stated interest and will be taxed accordingly. Thus, a Variable Note that provides for stated interest at either a single qualified floating rate or a single objective rate throughout the term thereof and that qualifies as a variable rate debt instrument under the OID Regulations will generally not be treated as having been issued with original issue discount unless the Variable Note is issued at a true discount (i.e., at a price below the Note's stated principal amount) in excess of a specified *de minimis* amount. The amount of qualified stated interest and the amount of original issue discount, if any, that accrues during an accrual period on a Variable Note is determined under the rules applicable to fixed rate debt instruments by assuming that the variable rate is a fixed rate equal to (i) in the case of a qualified floating rate or qualified inverse floating rate, the value, as of the issue date, of the qualified floating rate or qualified inverse floating rate, or (ii) in the case of an objective rate (other than a qualified inverse floating rate), a fixed rate that reflects the yield that is

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reasonably expected for the Variable Note. The qualified stated interest allocable to an accrual period is increased (or decreased) if the interest actually paid during an accrual period exceeds (or is less than) the interest assumed to be paid during the accrual period pursuant to the foregoing rules.

In general, any other Variable Note that qualifies as a variable rate debt instrument will be converted into an equivalent fixed rate debt instrument for purposes of determining the amount and accrual of original issue discount and qualified stated interest on this type of Variable Note. The OID Regulations generally require that a Variable Note be converted into an equivalent fixed rate debt instrument by substituting any qualified floating rate or qualified inverse floating rate provided for under the terms of that Variable Note with a fixed rate equal to the value of the qualified floating rate or qualified inverse floating rate, as the case may be, as of the Variable Note's issue date. Any objective rate (other than a qualified inverse floating rate) provided for under the terms of the Variable Note is converted into a fixed rate that reflects the yield that is reasonably expected for the Variable Note. In the case of a Variable Note that qualifies as a variable rate debt instrument and provides for stated interest at a fixed rate in addition to either one or more qualified floating rates or a qualified inverse floating rate, the fixed rate generally is initially converted into a qualified floating rate (or a qualified inverse floating rate, if the Variable Note provides for a qualified inverse floating rate). Under these circumstances, the qualified floating rate or qualified inverse floating rate that replaces the fixed rate must be a figure so that the fair market value of the Variable Note as of the Variable Note's issue date is approximately the same as the fair market value of an otherwise identical debt instrument that provides for either the qualified floating rate or qualified inverse floating rate rather than the fixed rate. Subsequent to converting the fixed rate into either a qualified floating rate or a qualified inverse floating rate, the Variable Note is then converted into an equivalent fixed rate debt instrument in the manner described above. Once the Variable Note is converted into an equivalent fixed rate debt instrument pursuant to the foregoing rules, the amount of original issue discount and qualified stated interest, if any, are determined for the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument by applying the general original issue discount rules to the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument and a U.S. Holder of the Variable Note will account for the original issue discount and qualified stated interest as if the U.S. Holder held the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument. Appropriate adjustments will be made for each accrual period to the amount of qualified stated interest or original issue discount assumed to have been accrued or paid with respect to the equivalent fixed rate debt instrument in the event that those amounts differ from the actual amount of interest accrued or paid on the Variable Note during the accrual period.

If a Variable Note does not qualify as a variable rate debt instrument under the OID Regulations, then the Variable Note would be treated as a contingent payment debt obligation. The Treasury Department has issued final regulations (the CPDI Regulations) concerning the proper United States federal income tax treatment of contingent payment debt instruments. In general, the CPDI Regulations would cause the timing and character of income, gain or loss reported on a contingent payment debt instrument to substantially differ from the

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timing and character of income, gain or loss reported on a contingent payment debt instrument under general principles of current United States federal income tax law. The CPDI Regulations generally require a U.S. Holder of this type of instrument to include future contingent and noncontingent interest payments in income as the interest accrues based upon a projected payment schedule with adjustments for differences between actual and projected contingent payments. Moreover, in general, under the CPDI Regulations, any gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange, or retirement of a contingent payment debt instrument will be treated as ordinary income and all or a portion of any loss realized could be treated as ordinary loss as opposed to capital loss (depending upon the circumstances). The proper United States federal income tax treatment of any Variable Notes that are treated as contingent payment debt obligations will be more fully described in the applicable pricing supplement. Furthermore, any other special United States federal income tax considerations, not otherwise discussed herein, which are applicable to any particular issue of Notes will be discussed in the applicable pricing supplement.

Certain of the Notes (i) may be redeemable at the option of the Company prior to their Stated Maturity Date (a call option) and/or (ii) may be repayable at the option of the holder prior to their Stated Maturity Date (a put option). Notes containing these features may be subject to rules that differ from the general rules discussed above. Investors intending to purchase Notes with these features should consult their own tax advisors, since the original issue discount consequences will depend, in part, on the particular terms and features of the purchased Notes.

U.S. Holders may generally, upon election, include in income all interest (including stated interest, acquisition discount, original issue discount, *de minimis* original issue discount, market discount, *de minimis* market discount, and unstated interest, as adjusted by any amortizable bond premium or acquisition premium) that accrues on a debt instrument by using the constant yield method applicable to original issue discount, subject to certain limitations and exceptions.

Short-Term Notes

In general, an individual or other cash method U.S. Holder is not required to accrue original issue discount on Notes that have a fixed maturity of one year or less (Short-Term Notes) unless the U.S. Holder elects to do so. If the election is not made, any gain recognized by the U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange or maturity of the Short-Term Note will be ordinary income to the extent of the original issue discount accrued on a straight-line basis, or upon election under the constant yield method (based on daily compounding), through the date of sale, exchange or maturity, and a portion of the deductions otherwise allowable to the U.S. Holder for interest on borrowings allocable to the Short-Term Note will be deferred until a corresponding amount of income is realized. U.S. Holders who report income for United States federal income tax purposes under the accrual method, and certain other holders including banks and dealers in securities, are required to accrue original issue discount on a Short-Term Note on a straight-line basis unless an election is made to accrue the original issue discount under a constant yield method (based on daily compounding).

Table of Contents**Market Discount**

If a U.S. Holder purchases a Note, other than an Original Issue Discount Note, for an amount that is less than its stated redemption price at maturity) or, in the case of an Original Issue Discount Note, for an amount that is less than its revised issue price as of the purchase date, the U.S. Holder will be treated as having purchased the Note at a market discount, unless the market discount is less than a specified *de minimis* amount.

Under the market discount rules, a U.S. Holder will be required to treat any partial principal payment (or, in the case of an Original Issue Discount Note, any payment that does not constitute qualified stated interest) on, or any gain realized on the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of, a Note as ordinary income to the extent of the lesser of (i) the amount of the payment or realized gain or (ii) the market discount which has not previously been included in income and is treated as having accrued on the Note at the time of the payment or disposition. Market discount will be considered to accrue ratably during the period from the date of acquisition to the maturity date of the Note, unless the U.S. Holder elects to accrue market discount on the basis of semiannual compounding. A U.S. Holder may be required to defer the deduction of all or a portion of the interest paid or accrued on any indebtedness incurred or maintained to purchase or carry a Note with market discount until the maturity of the Note or certain earlier dispositions, because a current deduction is only allowed to the extent the interest expense exceeds an allocable portion of market discount. A U.S. Holder may elect to include market discount in income currently as it accrues (on either a ratable or semiannual compounding basis), in which case the rules described above regarding the treatment as ordinary income of gain upon the disposition of the Note and upon the receipt of certain cash payments and regarding the deferral of interest deductions will not apply. Generally, this currently included market discount is treated as ordinary interest for United States federal income tax purposes. This election will apply to all debt instruments acquired by the U.S. Holder on or after the first day of the first taxable year to which the election applies and may be revoked only with the consent of the IRS.

Premium

If a U.S. Holder purchases a Note for an amount that is greater than the sum of all amounts payable on the Note after the purchase date other than payments of qualified stated interest, the U.S. Holder will be considered to have purchased the Note with amortizable bond premium equal in amount to the excess. A U.S. Holder may elect to amortize the premium using a constant yield method over the remaining term of the Note and may offset interest otherwise required to be included in respect of the Note during any taxable year by the amortized amount of the excess for the taxable year. However, if the Note may be optionally redeemed after the U.S. Holder acquires it at a price in excess of its stated redemption price at maturity, special rules would apply which could result in a deferral of the amortization of some bond premium until later in the term of the Note. Any election to amortize bond premium applies to all taxable debt instruments acquired by the U.S. Holder on or after the first day of the first taxable year to which the election applies and may be revoked only with the consent of the IRS.

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Disposition of a Note

Except as discussed above, upon the sale, exchange or retirement of a Note, a U.S. Holder generally will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange or retirement (other than amounts representing accrued and unpaid interest) and the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the Note. A U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in a Note generally will equal the U.S. Holder's initial investment in the Note increased by any original issue discount included in income (and accrued market discount, if any, if the U.S. Holder has included that market discount in income) and decreased by the amount of any payments, other than qualified stated interest payments, received and amortizable bond premium taken with respect to the Note. This gain or loss generally will be long-term capital gain or loss if the Note is held for more than one year. Non-corporate taxpayers are subject to reduced maximum rates on long-term capital gains and are generally subject to tax at ordinary income rates on net short-term capital gains. The deductibility of capital losses is subject to certain limitations. Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors concerning these tax law provisions.

Notes Payable in a Currency other than U.S. Dollars

Cash Method

A U.S. Holder who uses the cash method of accounting for United States federal income tax purposes and who receives a payment of interest on a Note (other than original issue discount or market discount) will be required to include in income the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency payment (determined on the date the payment is received) regardless of whether the payment is in fact converted to U.S. dollars at that time, and the U.S. dollar value will be the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the foreign currency.

Accrual Method

A U.S. Holder who uses the accrual method of accounting for United States federal income tax purposes, or who otherwise is required to accrue interest prior to receipt, will be required to include in income the U.S. dollar value of the amount of interest income (including original issue discount or market discount and reduced by amortizable bond premium to the extent applicable) that has accrued and is otherwise required to be taken into account with respect to a Note during an accrual period. The U.S. dollar value of the accrued income will be determined by translating the income at the average rate of exchange for the accrual period or, with respect to an accrual period that spans two taxable years, at the average rate for the partial period within the taxable year. A U.S. Holder may elect, however, to translate the accrued interest income using the rate of exchange on the last day of the accrual period or, with respect to an accrual period that spans two taxable years, using the rate of exchange on the last day of the taxable year. If the last day of an accrual period is within five business days of the date of receipt of the accrued interest, a U.S. Holder may translate the interest using the rate of exchange on the date of receipt. The above election will apply to all debt instruments held by the U.S. Holder at the beginning of the taxable year to which the election applies and to all debt instruments subsequently acquired by the U.S. Holder. The election may not be changed without the consent of the IRS. A

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U.S. Holder should consult a tax advisor before making the above election. A U.S. Holder will recognize exchange gain or loss (which will be treated as ordinary income or loss) with respect to accrued interest income on the date the income is received (regardless of whether the payment is actually converted to U.S. dollars). The amount of ordinary income or loss recognized will equal the difference, if any, between the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency payment received (determined on the date the payment is received) in respect of the applicable accrual period and the U.S. dollar value of interest income that has accrued during the accrual period (as determined above).

Purchase, Sale and Retirement of Notes

A U.S. Holder who purchases a Note with previously owned foreign currency will recognize ordinary income or loss in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between the U.S. Holder's tax basis in the foreign currency and the U.S. dollar fair market value of the foreign currency used to purchase the Note, determined on the date of purchase.

Except as discussed above with respect to Short-Term Notes, upon the sale, exchange or retirement of a Note, a U.S. Holder will recognize taxable gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale, exchange or retirement and the U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in the Note. This gain or loss generally will be capital gain or loss (except to the extent of any accrued market discount not previously included in the U.S. Holder's income) and will be long-term capital gain or loss if at the time of sale, exchange or retirement the Note has been held by the U.S. Holder for more than one year. To the extent the amount realized represents accrued but unpaid interest, however, these amounts must be taken into account as interest income (to the extent not previously taken into income under the accrual method), with exchange gain or loss computed as described in Notes Payable In A Currency Other Than U.S. Dollars Accrual Method above. If a U.S. Holder receives foreign currency on this type of sale, exchange or retirement the amount realized will be based on the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency on the date the payment is received or the Note is disposed of (or deemed disposed of as a result of a material change in the terms of the Note), depending on the U.S. Holder's method of accounting. In the case of a Note that is denominated in foreign currency and is traded on an established securities market, a cash basis U.S. Holder (or, upon election, an accrual basis U.S. Holder) will determine the U.S. dollar value of the amount realized by translating the foreign currency payment at the spot rate of exchange on the settlement date of the sale. A U.S. Holder's adjusted tax basis in a Note generally will equal the cost of the Note to that holder, increased by the amounts of any market discount or original issue discount previously included in income by the holder with respect to the Note and reduced by any amortized acquisition or other premium and any principal payments received by the holder. A U.S. Holder's tax basis in a Note, and the amount of any subsequent adjustments to the holder's tax basis, will be the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency amount paid for the Note, or of the foreign currency amount of the adjustment, determined on the date of the purchase or adjustment.

Gain or loss realized upon the sale, exchange or retirement of a Note that is attributable to fluctuations in currency

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exchange rates will be ordinary income or loss which will not be treated as interest income or expense. Gain or loss attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates (exclusive of exchange gain or loss, if any, with respect to accrued interest) will equal the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency principal amount of the Note, determined on the date the payment is received or the Note is disposed of, and the U.S. dollar value of the foreign currency principal amount of the Note, determined on the date the U.S. Holder acquired the Note. Such foreign currency gain or loss will be recognized only to the extent of the total gain or loss realized by the U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange or retirement of the Note.

Original Issue Discount

In the case of an Original Issue Discount Note or Short-Term Note, (i) original issue discount is determined in units of the foreign currency, (ii) accrued original issue discount is translated into U.S. dollars as described in Notes Payable In A Currency Other Than U.S. Dollars Accrual Method above and (iii) the amount of foreign currency gain or loss on the accrued original issue discount is determined by comparing the amount of income received attributable to the discount (either upon payment, maturity or an earlier disposition), as translated into U.S. dollars at the rate of exchange on the date of the receipt, with the amount of original issue discount accrued, as translated above.

Premium and Market Discount

In the case of a Note with market discount, (i) market discount is determined in units of the foreign currency, (ii) accrued market discount taken into account upon the receipt of any partial principal payment or upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of the Note (other than accrued market discount required to be taken into account currently) is translated into U.S. dollars at the exchange rate on the disposition date (and no part of the accrued market discount is treated as exchange gain or loss) and (iii) accrued market discount currently includible in income by a U.S. Holder for any accrual period is translated into U.S. dollars on the basis of the average exchange rate in effect during the applicable accrual period, and the exchange gain or loss is determined upon the receipt of any partial principal payment or upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of the Note in the manner described in Notes Payable In A Currency Other Than U.S. Dollars Accrual Method above with respect to computation of exchange gain or loss on accrued interest.

With respect to a Note acquired with amortizable bond premium, the premium is determined in the relevant foreign currency and reduces interest income in units of the foreign currency. Although not entirely clear, a U.S. Holder should recognize exchange gain or loss equal to the difference between the U.S. dollar value of the bond premium amortized with respect to a period, determined on the date the interest attributable to that period is received, and the U.S. dollar value of the bond premium determined on the date of the acquisition of the Note.

Exchange of Foreign Currencies

A U.S. Holder will have a tax basis in any foreign currency received as interest or on the sale, exchange or retirement of a Note equal to the U.S. dollar value of that foreign currency, determined at the time the interest is received or at the time of the sale,

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exchange or retirement. Any gain or loss realized by a U.S. Holder on a sale or other disposition of foreign currency (including its exchange for U.S. dollars or its use to purchase Notes) will be ordinary income or loss.

Backup Withholding

Backup withholding of United States Federal income tax may apply to payments made in respect of the Notes to registered owners who are not exempt recipients and who fail to provide their taxpayer identification number, provide an incorrect taxpayer identification number, fail to report interest, dividends or other reportable payments properly or, under certain circumstances, fail to provide a certified statement of exemption from backup withholding. Generally, individuals are not exempt recipients, but corporations and certain other entities are exempt recipients. Payments made in respect of the Notes to a U.S. Holder as well as the accrual of interest on Original Issue Discount Notes, must generally be reported to the IRS, unless the U.S. Holder is an exempt recipient.

In addition, upon the sale of a Note by a U.S. Holder to (or through) a broker, the purchase price would be subject to backup withholding, unless either (i) the broker determines that the seller is a corporation or other exempt recipient or (ii) the seller provides, in the required manner, certain identifying information. This type of sale must also generally be reported by the broker to the IRS, unless the broker determines that the seller is an exempt recipient.

Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from a payment to a beneficial owner would be allowed as a refund or a credit against the beneficial owner's United States federal income tax provided the required information is furnished to the IRS.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Notes are being offered on a continuing basis for sale by the Company through Goldman, Sachs & Co., Lehman Brothers Inc., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated and Salomon Smith Barney Inc. (the Agents), who have agreed to use their best efforts to solicit purchases of the Notes. The Company retains the right to offer the Notes directly to investors.

The Agents, individually or in a syndicate, may purchase Notes, as principal, from us from time to time for resale to investors and other purchasers at varying prices relating to prevailing market prices at the time of resale as determined by the applicable Agent or, if so specified in the applicable pricing supplement, for resale at a fixed offering price. However, we may agree with an Agent for that Agent to use its best efforts on an agency basis on our behalf to solicit offers to purchase Notes at 100% of the principal amount thereof, unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement. We will pay a commission to an Agent, ranging from 0.125% to 0.750% of the principal amount of each Note, depending upon its stated maturity, sold through that Agent as our agent. We will negotiate commissions with respect to Notes with stated maturities in excess of 30 years that are sold through an Agent as our agent at the time of the related sale.

In addition, we estimate our expenses incurred in connection with the offering and sale of the Notes, including reimbursement of certain of the Agents' expenses, will total approximately \$175,000.

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Unless otherwise specified in the applicable pricing supplement, any Note sold to an Agent as principal will be purchased by that Agent at a price equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof less a percentage of the principal amount equal to the commission applicable to an agency sale of a Note of identical maturity. An Agent may sell Notes it has purchased from us as principal to certain dealers less a concession equal to all or any portion of the discount received in connection with that purchase. An Agent may allow, and dealers may reallow, a discount to certain other dealers. After the initial offering of Notes, the offering price (in the case of Notes to be resold on a fixed offering price basis), the concession and the reallowance may be changed.

The Company reserves the right to withdraw, cancel or modify the offering of Notes at any time without notice and may reject orders in whole or in part whether placed directly with the Company or through the Agents. Each Agent will have the right, exercisable in its reasonable discretion, to reject any proposed purchase of Notes in whole or in part.

The Notes are a new issue of securities with no established trading market. The Notes will not be listed on any national or regional secu