

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Government Services
Financial Services Regulation Division

## **BLANKET ORDER NUMBER 63.1**

## IN THE MATTER OF THE SECURITIES ACT R.S.N.L. 1990 CHAPTER S-13, AS AMENDED

### AND

## EXEMPTION FROM THE REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT FOR TRADES IN SHORT-TERM DEBT INSTRUMENTS

# ORDER (Section 144.(1))

#### **Definitions**

- 1. Terms defined in the *Securities Act*, or in National Instrument 14-101 *Definitions* have the same meaning in this Blanket Order.
- 2. "Approved credit rating" has the same meaning ascribed to it in National Instrument 81-102 *Mutual Funds* (NI 81-102) with the exception of paragraph (b) of such definition.

## **Background**

- 3. A person or company in Newfoundland and Labrador is exempt from the registration requirement for trades in short-term debt under section 3.35 of NI 45-106 *Prospectus and Registration Exemptions* (NI 45-106).
- 4. Subsection 3.35(b) of NI 45-106 provides that the dealer registration requirement for short-term debt is available only where, among other things, the negotiable promissory note or commercial paper "has an approved credit rating from an approved credit rating organization."
- 5. NI 45-106 incorporates by reference the definitions for "approved credit rating" and "approved credit rating organization" in NI 81-102. The definition of "approved credit rating" in NI 81-102 requires, among other things, that (a) the rating assigned to such debt must be "at or above" certain prescribed short-term ratings categories, and (b) such debt must not have been assigned a rating by any "approved credit rating organization" that is not an "approved credit rating."
- 6. Certain Canadian financial institutions currently rely on section 3.35 of NI 45-106.
- 7. Section 3.35 of NI 45-106 will cease to be in force on March 27, 2010 pursuant to section 8.5 of NI 45-106, and the exemption will no longer be available to persons or companies currently relying upon it.

## Order

- The Superintendent orders, under section 138.19 of the Act, that the dealer registration requirement does not 8. apply to
  - a bank listed in Schedule I, II or III to the Bank Act (Canada); (i)
  - an association to which the Cooperative Credit Associations Act (Canada) applies or a (ii) central cooperative credit society for which an order has been made under subsection 473 (1) of that Act;
  - a loan corporation, trust company, trust corporation, insurance company, treasury (iii) branch, credit union, caisse populaire, financial services cooperative or credit union league or federation that is authorized by a statute of Canada or of a jurisdiction in Canada to carry on business in Canada or in any jurisdiction in Canada, as the case may be;
  - (iv) the Business Development Bank of Canada.

in respect of a trade in a negotiable promissory note or commercial paper maturing not more than one year from the date of issue, if the note or commercial paper traded

- is not convertible or exchangeable into or accompanied by a right to purchase another security other (a) than a security described in this order; and
- has an approved credit rating issued by one of the following rating organizations, or any of their (b) successors, at or above one of the following rating categories or a rating that replaces a category listed below:

Rating Organization	Rating
DBRS Limited Fitch Ratings Ltd. Moody's Investors Service, Inc. Standard & Poor's Corporation	R-1 (low) F2 P-2 A-2.

This order will come into effect on March 27, 2010 and will no longer apply after September 28, 2011.

**Dated** at St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador this 26th day of March, 2010.

Douglas Connolly, C.G.A

Superintendent of Securities