

Farm Credit Administration

§ 615.5135

the total outstanding loans of such banks, for the purposes of complying with the liquidity reserve requirement of §615.5134, managing surplus short-term funds, and for managing interest rate risk under §615.5135.

[58 FR 63056, Nov. 30, 1993]

§615.5133 Investment management.

The board of directors of each Farm Credit Bank, bank for cooperatives, or agricultural credit bank shall adopt written policies regarding the management of the bank's investments that are consistent with the Farm Credit Act of 1971, Farm Credit Administration regulations, and all other applicable statutes and regulations. The board of directors shall also ensure that the bank's investments are safely and soundly managed in accordance with these written policies, and that appropriate internal controls are in place to preclude investment actions that undermine the solvency and liquidity of the bank. The board of directors shall not delegate its responsibility to oversee and review the investment practices of the bank. The board of directors of each Farm Credit Bank, bank for cooperatives, or agricultural credit bank shall, on an annual basis, review these policies, as well as the objectives and performance of the investment portfolio. At a minimum, the written policy should address:

(a) The purpose and objectives of the bank's investment portfolio;

(b) The liquidity needs of the bank pursuant to the requirements of §615.5134;

(c) Interest rate risk management pursuant to §615.5135;

(d) Permissible brokers, dealers, and institutions for investing bank funds and limitations consistent with §615.5140 of this subpart, and the amount of funds that shall be invested or placed with any broker, dealer or institution;

(e) The size and quality of the investment portfolio;

(f) Risk diversification of the investment portfolio;

(g) Delegation of authority to manage bank investments to specific personnel or committees and a statement about the extent of their authority and responsibilities;

(h) Controls to monitor the performance of the bank's investments and to prevent loss, fraud, embezzlement, and unauthorized investments. Quarterly reports about the performance of all investments in the portfolio shall be made to the board of directors.

(i) Controls on investments in MBSs, CMOs, REMICs, and ABSs that are consistent with either §§615.5140(a)(2) or 615.5140(a)(8)(ii) of this subpart, as applicable, including parameters concerning the maximum amount of exposure to each category in the investment portfolio, minimum pool sizes, minimum number of loans in a pool, geographic diversification of loans in a pool, maximum allowable premiums (particularly as related to CMOs, REMICs, and ARMs).

[58 FR 63056, Nov. 30, 1993]

§615.5134 Liquidity reserve requirement.

(a) Each Farm Credit Bank, bank for cooperatives, and agricultural credit bank shall use cash and the eligible investments under §615.5140 of this subpart to maintain liquidity sufficient to fund:

(1) Fifty (50) percent of the bank's bonds, notes, Farm Credit Investment Bonds, and interest due within the next 90 days divided by 3;

(2) Fifty (50) percent of the bank's discount notes due within the next 30 days; and

(3) Fifty (50) percent of the bank's commercial bank borrowing due within the next 30 days.

(b) Each Farm Credit Bank, bank for cooperatives, and agricultural credit bank shall separately identify all investments that are held for the purpose of meeting its liquidity reserve requirement under this section. All investments held in the liquidity reserve shall be free of lien.

(c) The liquidity reserve requirement shall be calculated as of the last day of each month utilizing month end data.

[58 FR 63056, Nov. 30, 1993]

§615.5135 Management of interest rate risk.

The board of directors of each Farm Credit Bank, bank for cooperatives, and agricultural credit bank shall

adopt an interest rate risk management section of an asset/liability management policy which establishes interest rate risk exposure limits as well as the criteria to determine compliance with these limits. At a minimum, the interest rate risk management section shall establish policies and procedures for the bank to:

(a) Identify and analyze the causes of risks within its existing balance sheet structure;

(b) Measure the potential impact of these risks on projected earnings and market values by conducting interest rate shock tests and simulations of multiple economic scenarios at least on a quarterly basis;

(c) Explore and implement actions needed to obtain its desired risk management objectives;

(d) Document the objectives that the bank is attempting to achieve by purchasing eligible investments that are authorized by § 615.5140 of this subpart;

(e) Evaluate and document, at least quarterly, whether these investments have actually met the objectives stated under paragraph (d) of this section.

[58 FR 63056, Nov. 30, 1993]

§ 615.5136 Emergencies impeding normal access of Farm Credit banks to capital markets.

An emergency shall be deemed to exist whenever a financial, economic, agricultural or national defense crisis could impede the normal access of Farm Credit banks to the capital markets. Whenever the Farm Credit Administration determines after consultations with the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation that such an emergency exists, the Farm Credit Administration Board shall, in its sole discretion, adopt a resolution that:

(a) Increases the amount of eligible investments that Farm Credit Banks, banks for cooperatives and agricultural credit banks are authorized to hold pursuant to § 615.5132 of this subpart; and/or

(b) Modifies or waives the liquidity reserve requirement in § 615.5134 of this subpart.

[58 FR 63057, Nov. 30, 1993]

§ 615.5140 Eligible investments and risk diversification.

(a) In order to comply with §§ 615.5132, 615.5134, and 615.5135 of this subpart, each Farm Credit Bank, bank for cooperatives, and agricultural credit bank is authorized to hold the following eligible investments, denominated in United States dollars:

(1) Obligations of the United States; full-recourse obligations, other than mortgage-backed securities, of agencies, instrumentalities or corporations of the United States; or debt obligations of other obligors that are fully insured or guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States, its agencies, instrumentalities, or corporations;

(2) Mortgage-backed securities (MBSs), as defined by § 615.5131(l), Collateralized Mortgage Obligations (CMOs), as defined by § 615.5131(e), and Real Estate Mortgage Investment Conduits (REMICs), as defined by § 615.5131(p), that comply with the following requirements:

(i) The MBS, CMO, or REMIC shall either be:

(A) Issued by the Government National Mortgage Association or be backed solely by mortgages that are guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the full faith and credit of the United States; or

(B) Issued by and guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the Federal National Mortgage Association or the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation and be rated not lower than AAA (or equivalent) by a nationally recognized credit rating service;

(ii) Securities that are backed by adjustable rate mortgages, as defined by § 615.5131(b), shall have a repricing mechanism of 12 months or less tied to an index.

(iii) CMOs, REMICs, and fixed-rate MBSs shall satisfy the following three tests at the time of purchase and each quarter thereafter:

(A) The expected weighted average life (WAL) of the instrument does not exceed 5 years;

(B) The expected WAL does not extend for more than 2 years assuming an immediate and sustained parallel shift in the yield curve of plus 300 basis points, nor shorten for more than 3