

Series. This series has been developed to describe and make available to the public such information as methods acceptable to the NRC staff for implementing specific parts of the Commission's regulations, techniques used by the staff in evaluating specific problems or postulated accidents, and data needed by the staff in its review of applications for permits and licenses.

The draft guide, temporarily identified by its task number, DG-4006 (which should be mentioned in all correspondence concerning this draft guide), is titled "Demonstrating Compliance with the Radiological Criteria for License Termination." The guide is intended for Division 4, "Environmental and Siting." This draft guide is being developed to provide guidance on how to demonstrate compliance with the radiological criteria at the sites of licensees who wish to terminate their licenses and release their sites.

The draft guide has not received complete staff review and does not represent an official NRC staff position. However, the Commission has authorized the interim use of this guide for the next two years. The final version of the guide will then incorporate experience and public comments.

Public comments are being solicited on Draft Regulatory Guide DG-4006. Comments may be accompanied by additional relevant information or supporting data. Written comments may be submitted to the Rules and Directives Branch, Office of Administration, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Copies of comments received may be examined at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC. Comments will be most helpful if received by August 31, 1999.

You may also provide comments via the NRC's interactive rulemaking website through the NRC home page (<http://www.nrc.gov>). This site provides the availability to upload comments as files (any format), if your web browser supports that function. For information about the interactive rulemaking website, contact Ms. Carol Gallagher, (301) 415-5905; e-mail [CAG@nrc.gov](mailto:CAG@nrc.gov).

Although a time limit is given for comments on this draft guide, comments and suggestions in connection with items for inclusion in guides currently being developed or improvements in all published guides are encouraged at any time.

Regulatory guides are available for inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC. Requests for single copies of draft or final guides (which

may be reproduced) or for placement on an automatic distribution list for single copies of future draft guides in specific divisions should be made in writing to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Reproduction and Distribution Services Section; or by fax at (301) 415-5272. Telephone requests cannot be accommodated. Regulatory guides are not copyrighted, and Commission approval is not required to reproduce them. (5 U.S.C. 552(a))

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 21st day of July 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**John W. Craig,**

*Director, Division of Regulatory Applications, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research.*

[FR Doc. 98-20784 Filed 8-3-98; 8:45 am]

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## OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

### Excepted Service

**AGENCY:** Office of Personnel Management.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This gives notice of positions placed or revoked under Schedules A and B, and placed under Schedule C in the excepted service, as required by Civil Service Rule VI, Exceptions from the Competitive Service.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Patricia H. Paige, Staffing Reinvention Office, Employment Service (202) 606-0830.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Office of Personnel Management published its last monthly notice updating appointing authorities established or revoked under the Excepted Service provisions of 5 CFR 213 on July 9, 1998 (62 FR 36970). Individual authorities established or revoked under Schedules A and B and established under Schedule C between June 1, 1998, and June 30, 1998, appear in the listing below. Future notices will be published on the fourth Tuesday of each month, or as soon as possible thereafter. A consolidated listing of all authorities as of June 30 will also be published.

### Schedule A

No Schedule A authorities were established or revoked during June 1998.

### Schedule B

No Schedule B authorities were established or revoked during June 1998.

### Schedule C

The following Schedule C authorities were established during June 1998.

#### *Council on Environmental Quality*

Associate Director for Communications to the Chair, Council on Environmental Quality. Effective June 24, 1998.

#### *Department of Agriculture*

Confidential Assistant to the Administrator, Risk Management Agency. Effective June 25, 1998.

Special Assistant to the Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration. Effective June 29, 1998.

#### *Department of Commerce*

Senior Advisor to the Undersecretary for International Trade. Effective June 3, 1998.

Senior Advisor to the Director, Office of Sustainable Development and Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective June 26, 1998.

#### *Department of Defense*

Public Affairs Specialist to the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs. Effective June 25, 1998.

Defense Fellow to the Special Assistant for White House Liaison. Effective June 25, 1998.

#### *Department of Education*

Confidential Assistant to the Deputy Assistant Secretary, Intergovernmental and Constituent Relations. Effective June 4, 1998.

Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Effective June 15, 1998.

Director, Legislation Staff to the Assistant Secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Effective June 18, 1998.

Director, Congressional Affairs to the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislation and Congressional Affairs. Effective June 18, 1998.

Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Secretary, Office for Civil Rights. Effective June 25, 1998.

Special Assistant to the Secretary's Regional Representative, Region VII. Effective June 26, 1998.

#### *Department of Energy*

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Senate Liaison to the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs. Effective June 29, 1998.

*Department of Health and Human Services*

Confidential Assistant to the Executive Secretary to the Department of Health and Human Services. Effective June 26, 1998.

*Department of Housing and Urban Development*

Special Assistant to the Director, Intergovernmental Relations. Effective June 1, 1998.

Special Assistant to the Director, Executive Scheduling. Effective June 11, 1998.

Special Assistant to the Secretary's Representative. Effective June 11, 1998.

Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs. Effective June 12, 1998.

Secretary's Representative-Midwest to the Deputy Secretary, Office of the Secretary's Representative. Effective June 25, 1998.

*Department of Justice*

Assistant to the Attorney General. Effective June 4, 1998.

Confidential Assistant to the Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division. Effective June 18, 1998.

Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General. Effective June 26, 1998.

*Department of Labor*

Chief of Staff to the Assistant Secretary for Employment and Training. Effective June 26, 1998.

*Department of State*

Staff Assistant to the Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Initiatives. Effective June 18, 1998.

Special Advisor to the Under Secretary for Economic, Business and Agricultural Affairs. Effective June 18, 1998.

Special Assistant to the Women's Coordinator. Effective June 18, 1998.

*Department of Transportation*

Special Assistant to the Director, Office of External Communications. Effective June 1, 1998.

Special Assistant to the Associate Deputy Secretary. Effective June 29, 1998.

*Department of the Treasury*

Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary (Legislative Affairs and Public Liaison). Effective June 25, 1998.

*Federal Labor Relations Authority*

Director of External Affairs/Special Projects to the Chair, Federal Labor Relations Authority. Effective June 1, 1998.

*National Aeronautics and Space Administration*

Program Specialist to the Special Assistant to the Administrator. Effective June 25, 1998.

*President's Commission on White House Fellowships*

Special Assistant to the Director, President's Commission on White House Fellowships. Effective June 11, 1998.

*Securities and Exchange Commission*

Confidential Assistant to a Commissioner. Effective June 11, 1998.

Public Affairs Specialist to the Public Affairs Director, Office of Public Affairs, Policy Evaluation and Research. Effective June 11, 1998.

Writer-Editor to the Chairman. Effective June 11, 1998.

*Selective Service System*

Confidential Assistant to the Director, Selective Service System. Effective June 1, 1998.

*Small Business Administration*

Speech Writer to the Associate Administrator for Communications and Public Liaison. Effective June 18, 1998.

**Authority:** 5 U.S.C. 3301 and 3302; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR 1954-1958 Comp., P. 218. Office of Personnel Management.

**Janice R. Lachance,**

*Director.*

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Rel. No. IC-23363; 812-11084]

**The First Australia Fund, Inc.; Notice of Application**

July 28, 1998

**AGENCY:** Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

**ACTION:** Notice of an application for an order under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") for an exemption from section 19(b) of the Act and rule 19b-1 under the Act.

**SUMMARY OF APPLICATION:** The First Australia Fund, Inc. (the "Fund"), a registered closed-end diversified management investment company, requests an order to permit it to make up to four distributions of net long-term capital gains in any one taxable year, so long as it maintains in effect a distribution policy with respect to its common stock calling for quarterly

distributions of an annually adjusted percentage of its net asset value ("NAV").

**FILING DATES:** The application was filed on March 19, 1998 and amended on May 29, 1998 and July 27, 1998.

**HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING:** An order granting the application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing.

Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving applicant with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on August 21, 1998, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the applicant, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested.

Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

**ADDRESSES:** Secretary, SEC, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Fund, c/o Margaret A. Bancroft, Esq., Dechert Price & Rhoads, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10112.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John K. Forst, Attorney Advisor, at (202) 942-0569, or Mary Kay Frech, Branch Chief, at (202) 942-0564, (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549 (tel. 202-942-8090).

**Applicant's Representations**

1. The Fund is a closed-end diversified management investment company organized as a Maryland corporation and registered under the Act. The Fund's primary investment objective is long-term capital appreciation through investment primarily in equity securities of Australian companies listed on Australian stock exchanges. The Fund's shares are listed on the American Stock Exchange. The Fund's shares have traded at various times at a premium as well as at a discount to the NAV.

2. On December 12, 1997, the Fund instituted a distribution policy (the "Distribution Policy") that calls for regular quarterly distributions at an annual rate, set once a year by the Fund's board of directors (the "Board"), which is a percentage of the rolling average of the Fund's prior four quarter-end NAVs ("Rolling Distribution Rate").