

Part II Organizational Action (continued)

17 List the applicable Internal Revenue Code section(s) and subsection(s) upon which the tax treatment is based ▶ See Statement 1

18 Can any resulting loss be recognized? ▶ See Statement 1

19 Provide any other information necessary to implement the adjustment, such as the reportable tax year ▶ See Statement 1

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature ▶ *Susan C. Curry* Date ▶ 1/17/2017

Print your name ▶ Susan C. Curry Title ▶ Assistant Treasurer

Paid Preparer Use Only	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
	Firm's name ▶			Firm's EIN ▶	
	Firm's address ▶			Phone no.	

**Information Furnished Pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 6045B
Relating to Actions Affecting the Basis of Specified Securities**

ClearBridge Energy MLP Total Return Fund Inc. (the "Fund")
Employer Identification Number: 45-4960969
Security Classification: Mandatorily Redeemable Preferred Stock ("MRPS")

The Fund has determined that all of the distributions listed below that were paid during the taxable year ended November 30, 2016 are classified as return of capital:

<u>Class</u>	<u>CUSIP</u>	<u>Ex-Date</u>	<u>Record Date</u>	<u>Payable Date</u>	<u>Distribution Per Share</u>	<u>Return of Capital Per Share</u>
A	18469Q2#4	DAILY	DAILY	02/16/2016	\$922.50	\$922.50
A	18469Q2#4	DAILY	DAILY	02/24/2016	\$1,004.50	\$1,004.50
A	18469Q2#4	DAILY	DAILY	03/01/2016	\$922.50	\$922.50
A	18469Q2#4	DAILY	DAILY	06/01/2016	\$922.50	\$922.50
A	18469Q2#4	DAILY	DAILY	09/01/2016	\$922.50	\$922.50
A	18469Q2#4	DAILY	DAILY	12/01/2016	\$922.50	\$922.50
B	18469Q3#3	DAILY	DAILY	02/16/2016	\$1,017.50	\$1,017.50
B	18469Q3#3	DAILY	DAILY	02/24/2016	\$1,107.94	\$1,107.94
B	18469Q3#3	DAILY	DAILY	03/01/2016	\$1,017.50	\$1,017.50
B	18469Q3#3	DAILY	DAILY	06/01/2016	\$1,017.50	\$1,017.50
B	18469Q3#3	DAILY	DAILY	09/01/2016	\$1,017.50	\$1,017.50
B	18469Q3#3	DAILY	DAILY	12/01/2016	\$1,017.50	\$1,017.50
C	18469Q4#2	DAILY	DAILY	02/16/2016	\$1,065.00	\$1,065.00
C	18469Q4#2	DAILY	DAILY	02/24/2016	\$1,159.67	\$1,159.67
C	18469Q4#2	DAILY	DAILY	03/01/2016	\$1,065.00	\$1,065.00
C	18469Q4#2	DAILY	DAILY	06/01/2016	\$1,065.00	\$1,065.00
C	18469Q4#2	DAILY	DAILY	09/01/2016	\$1,065.00	\$1,065.00
C	18469Q4#2	DAILY	DAILY	12/01/2016	\$1,065.00	\$1,065.00

A return of capital is not considered taxable income to shareholders. Pursuant to IRC Section 301(c), the portion of a distribution which is a dividend (as defined under IRC Section 316) is includable in gross income while the portion of the distribution which is not a dividend shall be applied against and reduce the adjusted basis of the stock. Accordingly, shareholders who received these distributions should not include these amounts in taxable income, but instead pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Sections 301(c)(2) and 1016(a)(4), should treat them as a reduction of the cost basis of the applicable shares upon which these distributions were paid. In order to compute the required adjustment to cost basis, a shareholder should multiply the per share amount of each of the respective distributions by the number of shares held at each of the respective ex-dates.

If the shareholder has not sold or otherwise disposed of any shares during calendar year 2016, the information computed by the shareholder regarding the appropriate reduction in cost basis should be maintained in the shareholder's records until such time as the shareholder sells or otherwise disposes of such shares.

If the shareholder has sold or otherwise disposed of any shares during calendar year 2016, the shareholder should increase the recognized gain or decrease the recognized loss on the respective

Statement 1

shares sold by the per share amount of the above-listed distribution multiplied by the respective shares held at each of the ex-dates listed which have been sold.

This information is being provided pursuant to Internal Revenue Code Section 6045(e), as amended. The tax information contained herein is provided for informational purposes only and should not be construed as legal or tax advice. Legg Mason does not provide legal or tax advice to taxpayers. This material and any tax-related statements are not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used or relied upon, by any such taxpayer for the purpose of avoiding tax penalties. Please consult an attorney or tax professional for assistance as to how this information will impact your specific tax situation.

For more information, please contact the Fund at 1-888-777-0102 or visit the Fund's web site at www.leggmason.com/cef.