# Annual Shareholder Report

October 31, 2023



Share Class | Ticker A | FIHAX C | FIHCX Institutional | FIHBX R6 | FIHLX

## Federated Hermes Institutional High Yield Bond Fund

Fund Established 2002

A Portfolio of Federated Hermes Institutional Trust

Dear Valued Shareholder.

We are pleased to present the Annual Shareholder Report for your fund covering the period from November 1, 2022 through October 31, 2023. This report includes Management's Discussion of Fund Performance, a complete listing of your fund's holdings, performance information and financial statements along with other important fund information.

As a global leader in active, responsible investment management, Federated Hermes is guided by our conviction that responsible investing is the best way to create wealth over the long term. The company provides capabilities across a wide range of asset classes to investors around the world.

In addition, FederatedHermes.com/us offers quick and easy access to valuable resources that include timely fund updates, economic and market insights from our investment strategists and financial planning tools. You can also access many of those insights by following us on Twitter (@FederatedHermes) and LinkedIn.

Thank you for investing with us. We hope you find this information useful and look forward to keeping you informed.

Sincerely,

J. Christopher Donahue, President

& Chity Torralug

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# Management's Discussion of Fund Performance (unaudited)

The total return of Federated Hermes Institutional High Yield Bond Fund (the "Fund"), based on net asset value for the 12-month reporting period ended October 31, 2023, was 5.36% for the Class A Shares, 14.29% for the Class C Shares, 5.42% for the Institutional Shares and 5.43% for the Class R6 Shares. The 5.43% total return for the Fund's Class R6 Shares for the reporting period consisted of 6.27% of taxable dividends and -0.84% of depreciation in the net asset value of shares. The total return of the Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Capped Index (BHY2%ICI), a broad-based securities market index, was 6.23% during the same period. The total return of the Lipper High Yield Funds Average (LHYFA), the peer group for the Fund, was 5.23% during the same period. The Fund's and LHYFA's total returns for the most recently completed fiscal year reflected actual cash flows, transaction costs and expenses which were not reflected in the total return of the BHY2%ICI.

During the reporting period, the most significant factors affecting the Fund's performance relative to the BHY2%ICI were: (1) the allocation among industry sectors and (2) the selection of individual securities.

The following discussion will focus on the performance of the Fund's Class R6 Shares relative to the BHY2%ICI.

### MARKET OVERVIEW

The high-yield<sup>4</sup> market generated attractive relative and absolute returns during the period under review. The driving force behind this strong performance was the resilient strength in the U.S. economy. Despite the Federal Reserve's continued campaign of increasing short-term rates, 5 China's disappointing reopening, weakness in the Eurozone and many economic indicators flashing caution, the U.S. economy continued to surprise to the upside driven by the strong consumer. High-yield issuers' credit statistics remained reasonable despite modest earnings weakness and an increasing interest burden. Default rates did move somewhat higher during the period. These factors led to a decline in the yield spread between the Credit Suisse High Yield Bond Index<sup>6</sup> and U.S. Treasury securities of comparable maturities, which began the fiscal year at 469 basis points and ended the period at 448 basis points. The decline in the yield spread helped offset much of the overall rise in U.S. Treasury interest rates, which allowed the high-yield market to capture most of its income and avoid the significant rate related price decline experienced by other fixed-income markets.

Within the high-yield market, major industry sectors that substantially outperformed the overall BHY2%ICI included: Leisure, Gaming, Industrial—Other, Oil Field Services and Building Materials. Major industry sectors that substantially underperformed the overall BHY2%ICI included: Media & Entertainment, Cable & Satellite, Wireline Telecommunications,

Wireless Telecommunications and Electric Utilities. From a credit quality perspective, the lower quality, credit-sensitive CCC-rated sector generated the best return at 7.44% followed by the B-rated sector at 6.77% while the more interest rate sensitive BB-rated sector returned 5.27%.

#### **SECTOR ALLOCATION**

During the reporting period, the Fund was negatively impacted by its sector allocation relative to the BHY2%ICI. The Fund's overweight position in the poor performing Media & Entertainment and Cable & Satellite industry sectors negatively impacted performance as did the Fund's underweight position in the strong performing Leisure sector. The Fund was positively impacted by its overweight position in the strong performing Building Material sector and by its underweight position in the poor performing Wireline Telecommunications and Wireless Telecommunications sectors.

#### SECURITY SELECTION

During the reporting period, security selection had a negative impact to Fund performance relative to the BHY2%ICI. This was especially true in the Media & Entertainment, Gaming, Cable & Satellite, Electric Utility and Packaging industry sectors. Specific Fund holdings that negatively impacted performance relative to the BHY2%ICI included: CSC Holding, iHeartcommunications, Audacy, Inc., Enviva and ARD Finance SA. The Fund was positively impacted by security selection in the Technology, Automotive, Chemicals, P&C Insurance, Consumer Cyclical Services and Diversified Manufacturing sectors. Specific Fund holdings that positively impacted performance relative to the BHY2%ICI included: Diamond BC BV, Foundation Building Materials, Madison IAQ LLC, Broadstreet Partners and Mozart Debt Merger. The Fund's equity holding of Superior Energy Services, Inc. received in a debt restructuring also had a positive impact.

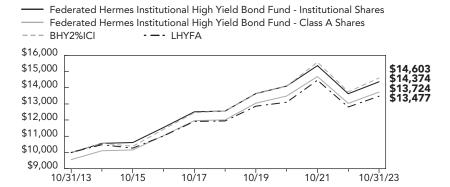
- 1 The Fund's A and C classes commenced operations on February 9, 2023. For the portion of the period prior to commencement of operations of the Fund's A and C classes, the performance information is for the Fund's Institutional Shares. The performance of the Institutional Shares has not been adjusted to reflect the expenses applicable to the A or C class. The performance has been adjusted to reflect the differences in sale charges and deferred sales charges applicable to the A class and C class.
- 2 Please see the footnotes to the line graph below for definitions of, and further information about, the BHY2%ICI.
- 3 Please see the footnotes to the line graph below for definitions of, and further information about, the Lipper peer group.
- 4 High-yield, lower-rated securities generally entail greater market, credit and liquidity risks than investment-grade securities and may include higher volatility and a higher risk of default.
- 5 Bond prices are sensitive to changes in interest rates, and a rise in interest rates can cause a decline in their prices.
- 6 Credit Suisse High Yield Bond Index serves as a benchmark to evaluate the performance of low-quality bonds. Low-quality is defined as those bonds in the range from "BB" to "CCC" and defaults. The index is unmanaged, and it is not possible to invest directly in an index.

#### **FUND PERFORMANCE AND GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT**

The graph below illustrates the hypothetical investment of \$10,000<sup>1</sup> in the Federated Hermes Institutional High Yield Bond Fund (the "Fund") from October 31, 2013 to October 31, 2023, compared to the Bloomberg US Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Capped Index (BHY2%ICI)<sup>2</sup> and the Lipper High Yield Funds Average (LHYFA).<sup>3</sup> The Average Annual Total Return Table below shows returns for each class averaged over the stated periods.

### **GROWTH OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT**

### Growth of \$10,000 as of October 31, 2023



■ Total returns shown for the Class A Shares include the maximum sales charge of 4.50% (\$10,000 investment minus \$450 sales charge = \$9,550).

The Fund offers multiple share classes whose performance may be greater than or less than its other share class(es) due to differences in sales charges and expenses. See the Average Annual Total Return table below for the returns of additional classes not shown in the line graph above.

### Average Annual Total Returns for the Period Ended 10/31/2023

(returns reflect all applicable sales charges and contingent deferred sales charges as specified below in footnote #1)

	1 Year	5 Years	10 Years
Class A Shares <sup>4</sup>	0.64%	1.77%	3.22%
Class C Shares <sup>5</sup>	3.30%	2.50%	3.58%
Institutional Shares	5.42%	2.72%	3.70%
Class R6 Shares <sup>6</sup>	5.43%	2.73%	3.69%
BHY2%ICI	6.23%	3.04%	3.86%
LHYFA	5.23%	2.53%	3.01%

Performance data quoted represents past performance which is no guarantee of future results. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Mutual fund performance changes over time and current performance may be lower or higher than what is stated. For current to the most recent month-end performance and after-tax returns, visit <a href="FederatedHermes.com/us">FederatedHermes.com/us</a> or call 1-800-341-7400. Returns shown do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on Fund distributions or the redemption of Fund shares. Mutual funds are not obligations of or guaranteed by any bank and are not federally insured.

- 1 Represents a hypothetical investment of \$10,000 in the Fund after deducting applicable sales charges for Class A Shares, the maximum sales charge of 4.50% (\$10,000 investment minus \$450 sales charge = \$9, 550); for Class C Shares, the maximum contingent deferred sales charge is 1.00% on any redemption less than one year from the purchase date. The Fund's performance assumes the reinvestment of all dividends and distributions. The BHY2%ICI and the LHYFA have been adjusted to reflect reinvestment of dividends on securities in the index and average.
- 2 The BHY2%ICI is an issuer-constrained version of the Bloomberg US Corporate High-Yield Index that measures the market of USD-denominated, noninvestment-grade, fixed-rate, taxable corporate bonds. The index follows the same rules as the uncapped index, but limits the exposure of each issuer to 2% of the total market value and redistributes any excess market value index-wide on a pro-rata basis. The BHY2%ICI is not adjusted to reflect sales charges, expenses or other fees that the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) requires to be reflected in the Fund's performance. The index is unmanaged and unlike the Fund, is not affected by cash flows. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.
- 3 Lipper figures represent the average of the total returns reported by all funds designated by Lipper, Inc., as falling into the respective category and is not adjusted to reflect any sales charges. The Lipper figures in the Growth of a \$10,000 Investment line graph are based on historical return information published by Lipper and reflect the return of the funds comprising the category in the year of publication. Because the funds designated by Lipper as falling into the category can change over time, the Lipper figures in the line graph may not match the Lipper figures in the Average Annual Total Returns table, which reflect the return of the funds that currently comprise the category.
- 4 The Fund's Class A Shares commenced operations on February 9, 2023. For the periods prior to the commencement of operations of the Class A Shares, the performance information shown is for the Fund's Institutional Shares. The performance shown has been adjusted to reflect differences between the sales loads/charges imposed on the purchase and redemption of those classes where applicable.
- 5 The Fund's Class C Shares commenced operations on February 9, 2023. For the periods prior to the commencement of operations of the Class C Shares, the performance information shown is for the Fund's Institutional Shares. The performance shown has been adjusted to reflect differences between the sales loads/charges imposed on the purchase and redemption of those classes where applicable.
- 6 The Fund's Class R6 Shares commenced operations on June 29, 2016. For the period prior to the commencement of operations of the Class R6 Shares, the performance information shown is for Institutional Shares adjusted to reflect the expenses of Class R6 Shares for each year for which the Fund's Class R6 expenses would have exceeded the actual expenses paid by the Fund's Institutional Shares.

### Portfolio of Investments Summary Table (unaudited)

At October 31, 2023, the Fund's index classification was as follows:

Index Classification	Percentage of Total Net Assets
Technology	11.0%
Cable Satellite	7.8%
Insurance - P&C	7.0%
Midstream	6.3%
Automotive	6.3%
Media Entertainment	5.8%
Health Care	4.8%
Gaming	4.8%
Packaging	4.5%
Independent Energy	4.2%
Building Materials	3.8%
Other <sup>2</sup>	30.1%
Cash Equivalents <sup>3</sup>	2.4%
Other Assets and Liabilities - Net <sup>4</sup>	1.2%
TOTAL	100%

<sup>1</sup> Index classifications are based upon, and individual portfolio securities are assigned to, the classifications and sub-classifications of the Bloomberg U.S. Corporate High Yield 2% Issuer Capped Index (BHY2%ICI). Individual portfolio securities that are not included in the BHY2%ICI are assigned to an index classification by the Fund's Adviser.

<sup>2</sup> For purposes of this table, index classifications which constitute less than 3.5% of the Fund's total net assets have been aggregated under the designation "Other."

<sup>3</sup> Cash Equivalents include any investments in money market mutual funds and/or overnight repurchase agreements.

<sup>4</sup> Assets, other than investments in securities, less liabilities. See Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

### Portfolio of Investments

October 31, 2023

CORPORATE BONDS—96.1% Aerospace/Defense—1.6%  \$ 24,575,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.250%, 3/15/2026 \$ 13,925,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 8/15/2028 38,600,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.875%, 12/15/2030 6,175,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.625%, 1/15/2029 17,925,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.875%, 5/1/2029 17,925,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 5.500%, 11/15/2027 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 7.500%, 3/15/2027 TOTAL Airlines—0.1%  8,541,667 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026  2,125,000 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029 TOTAL Automotive—6.3% 4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028 36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025 Dana Financing Lux Sarl, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 4/15/2025	Value
\$ 24,575,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.250%, 3/15/2026 13,925,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 8/15/2028 38,600,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.875%, 12/15/2030 6,175,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.625%, 1/15/2029 14,275,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.875%, 5/1/2029 17,925,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 5.500%, 11/15/2027 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 7.500%, 3/15/2027 TOTAL  Airlines—0.1%  8,541,667 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026 2,125,000 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029 TOTAL  Automotive—6.3% 4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028 36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026 3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031 1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	
13,925,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 8/15/2028           38,600,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.875%, 12/15/2030           6,175,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.625%, 1/15/2029           14,275,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.875%, 5/1/2029           17,925,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 5.500%, 11/15/2027           8,050,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 7.500%, 3/15/2027           TOTAL         Airlines—0.1%           8,541,667         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026           2,125,000         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029           TOTAL         Automotive—6.3%           4,100,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028           36,950,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026           3,725,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031           1,395,000         Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	
13,925,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 8/15/2028           38,600,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.875%, 12/15/2030           6,175,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.625%, 1/15/2029           14,275,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.875%, 5/1/2029           17,925,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 5.500%, 11/15/2027           8,050,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 7.500%, 3/15/2027           TOTAL         Airlines—0.1%           8,541,667         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026           2,125,000         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029           TOTAL         Automotive—6.3%           4,100,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028           36,950,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026           3,725,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031           1,395,000         Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	24,032,007
38,600,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.875%, 12/15/2030           6,175,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.625%, 1/15/2029           14,275,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.875%, 5/1/2029           17,925,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 5.500%, 11/15/2027           8,050,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 7.500%, 3/15/2027           TOTAL         Airlines—0.1%           8,541,667         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026           2,125,000         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029           TOTAL         Automotive—6.3%           4,100,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028           36,950,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026           3,725,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031           1,395,000         Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	13,538,349
6,175,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.625%, 1/15/2029           14,275,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Note, Series WI, 4.875%, 5/1/2029           17,925,000         TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 5.500%, 11/15/2027           ToTAL           Airlines—0.1%           8,541,667         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026           2,125,000         American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029           TOTAL         Automotive—6.3%           4,100,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028           36,950,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026           3,725,000         Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031           1,395,000         Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	37,308,058
17,925,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 5.500%, 11/15/2027  TOTAL  Airlines—0.1%  8,541,667 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026  2,125,000 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029  TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	5,331,310
8,050,000 TransDigm, Inc., Sr. Sub., Series WI, 7.500%, 3/15/2027 TOTAL  Airlines—0.1%  8,541,667 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026  2,125,000 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029 TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	12,385,538
TOTAL  Airlines—0.1%  8,541,667 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026  2,125,000 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029  TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	16,705,464
TOTAL  Airlines—0.1%  8,541,667 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026  2,125,000 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029  TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	8,048,437
8,541,667 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.500%, 4/20/2026  2,125,000 American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029  TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	117,349,163
5.500%, 4/20/2026  American Airlines, Inc./AAdvantage Loyalty IP Ltd., 144A, 5.750%, 4/20/2029  TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000  Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000  Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000  Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	
5.750%, 4/20/2029 TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	8,314,745
TOTAL  Automotive—6.3%  4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	
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4,100,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 4/15/2028  36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	10,233,683
36,950,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000 Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	
4.875%, 8/15/2026  3,725,000  Adient Global Holdings Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 4/15/2031  1,395,000  Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	4,040,120
8.250%, 4/15/2031 1,395,000 Clarios Global LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2025	34,452,941
	3,628,722
6.975.000 Dana Financing Lux Carl Cr. Hassard Nata 1444 F.7509 4/15/2025	1,385,267
0,073,000 Dana Financing Lux San, St. Unsecq. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 4/15/2025	6,695,195
3,800,000 Dana, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.625%, 6/15/2028	3,448,177
36,600,000 Dornoch Debt Merger Sub, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.625%, 10/15/2029	28,832,561
9,150,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 2.700%, 8/10/2026	8,210,530
30,600,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 3.375%, 11/13/2025	28,585,220
23,600,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.000%, 11/13/2030	19,458,611
23,800,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.063%, 11/1/2024	23,191,682
11,725,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.125%, 8/17/2027	10,657,648
9,375,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.271%, 1/9/2027	8,683,957
26,975,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.113%, 5/3/2029	24,576,834
23,725,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.125%, 6/16/2025	23,106,453
12,050,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 7.350%, 11/4/2027	12,226,809
30,200,000 Ford Motor Credit Co. LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series GMTN, 4.389%, 1/8/2026	28,658,504
17,025,000 IHO Verwaltungs GmbH, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.000%, 5/15/2027	15,861,852
21,000,000 IHO Verwaltungs GmbH, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.375%, 5/15/2029	18,321,116
80,275,000 Panther BF Aggregator 2 LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.500%, 5/15/2027	79,187,258

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CORPORATE BONDS—continued		
Automotive—continued		
Real Hero Merger Sub 2, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.250%, 2/1/2029	\$	29,410,209
Schaeffler Verwaltung Zw, 144A, 4.750%, 9/15/2026		26,356,412
ZF North America Capital, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 4/14/2028		6,548,533
ZF North America Capital, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.125%, 4/14/2030		5,730,665
TOTAL		451,255,276
Banking—0.2%		
Ally Financial, Inc., Sr. Sub. Note, 5.750%, 11/20/2025		12,111,105
Building Materials—3.8%		
Abc Supply Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 11/15/2029		1,313,464
American Builders & Contractors Supply Co., Inc., 144A, 4.000%, 1/15/2028		8,852,310
Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc., Sr. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 8/1/2030		4,110,084
Camelot Return Merger SU, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 8.750%, 8/1/2028		10,282,140
Cornerstone Building Brands, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 1/15/2029		7,521,675
Cp Atlas Buyer, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 12/1/2028		29,097,762
Foundation Building Materials, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.000%, 3/1/2029		29,667,045
Gyp Holdings III Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 5/1/2029		20,256,694
Interface, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 12/1/2028		12,561,179
MIWD Holdco II LLC/ MIWD Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 2/1/2030		3,496,724
Srs Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.000%, 12/1/2029		30,404,466
Srs Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 7/1/2029		21,526,305
Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.375%, 1/15/2031		11,406,419
Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 7/15/2030		15,009,983
Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 1/15/2028		7,123,673
Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 2/15/2027		26,282,402
White Cap Buyer LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 10/15/2028		22,542,363
White Cap Parent LLC, Sr. Sub. Secd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 3/15/2026		14,443,826
TOTAL		275,898,514
Cable Satellite—7.8%		
CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Sub. Secd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 5/1/2026		418,142
CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.500%, 5/1/2032		10,977,273
CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 2/1/2031		31,684,719
CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 1/15/2034		6,345,533
CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.500%, 8/15/2030		25,319,786
	Real Hero Merger Sub 2, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.250%, 2/1/2029 Schaeffler Verwaltung Zw, 144A, 4.750%, 9/15/2026 ZF North America Capital, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 4/14/2028 ZF North America Capital, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.125%, 4/14/2030 TOTAL  Banking—0.2% Ally Financial, Inc., Sr. Sub. Note, 5.750%, 11/20/2025 Building Materials—3.8% Abc Supply Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 11/15/2029 American Builders & Contractors Supply Co., Inc., 144A, 4.000%, 1/15/2028 Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc., Sr. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 8/1/2030 Camelot Return Merger SU, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 8.750%, 8/1/2028 Cornerstone Building Brands, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 1/15/2029 Cp Atlas Buyer, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 12/1/2028 Foundation Building Materials, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.000%, 3/1/2029 Gyp Holdings III Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 5/1/2029 Interface, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 12/1/2028 MIWD Holdco II LLC/ MIWD Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 2/1/2030 Srs Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.000%, 12/1/2029 Srs Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.375%, 1/15/2031 Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 7/15/2031 Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 7/15/2031 Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 1/15/2031 Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 1/15/2031 Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 10/15/2028 White Cap Buyer LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 10/15/2028 White Cap Buyer LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 3/15/2026 COO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Sub. Secd. Note, 144A, 4.500%, 5/1/2032 CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 3/15/2034 CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 1/15/2034	Real Hero Merger Sub 2, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.250%, 2/1/2029 Schaeffler Verwaltung Zw, 144A, 4.750%, 9/15/2026 ZF North America Capital, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 4/14/2038 ZF North America Capital, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.125%, 4/14/2030 TOTAL Banking—0.2% Ally Financial, Inc., Sr. Sub. Note, 5.750%, 11/20/2025 Building Materials—3.8% Abc Supply Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 11/15/2029 American Builders & Contractors Supply Co., Inc., 144A, 4.000%, 1/15/2028 Beacon Roofing Supply, Inc., Sr. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 8/1/2030 Camelot Return Merger SU, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 8.750%, 8/1/2028 Cornerstone Building Brands, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 1/15/2029 Cp Atlas Buyer, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 12/1/2028 Foundation Building Materials, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.000%, 3/1/2029 Gyp Holdings III Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 5/1/2029 Interface, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 12/1/2028 MIND Holdco II LLC/ MIWD Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 2/1/2030 Srs Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 7/1/2029 Srs Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 7/1/2029 Srs Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 7/15/2031 Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 7/15/2031 Standard Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 1/15/2028 White Cap Buyer LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 3/15/2027 White Cap Buyer LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 3/15/2028 White Cap Parent LLC, Sr. Sub. Secd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 3/15/2028 CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Sub. Secd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 3/15/2032 CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 3/15/2031 CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 1/15/2034 CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 1/15/2034 CCO Holdings LLC/Cap Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 1/15/2034

Value CORPORATE BONDS—continued Cable Satellite—continued \$ 7,400,000 Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.500%, 8/15/2030 6.110.846 9,850,000 Virgin Media Secured Finance PLC, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5.500%, 5/15/2029 8,732,343 Vmed O2 UK Financing I PLC, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 10,100,000 4.250%, 1/31/2031 7,953,971 17,325,000 Vmed O2 UK Financing I PLC, Sr. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 7/15/2031 13,960,759 VZ Secured Financing BV, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5,000%, 1/15/2032 14.525.000 11.030.721 Ziago Bond Co. BV. Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5,125%, 2/28/2030 5.275.000 3.848.558 3.800.000 Ziggo BV, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4,875%, 1/15/2030 3.038.322 36.175.000 Ziggo Finance BV, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.000%, 1/15/2027 33.172.828 TOTAL 558,709,844 Chemicals—2.4% 7.350.000 Ashland LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.375%, 9/1/2031 5.643.997 6,125,000 Axalta Coat/Dutch Holding BV, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 6/15/2027 5,646,304 9,500,000 Axalta Coating Systems LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.375%, 2/15/2029 7,816,800 9,425,000 Cheever Escrow Issuer, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.125%, 10/1/2027 8,687,002 20,250,000 Element Solutions, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 9/1/2028 17,252,971 11.850.000 H.B. Fuller Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4,250%, 10/15/2028 10.280.408 Herens Holdco Sarl, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.750%, 5/15/2028 35.125.000 27.240.593 Illuminate Buyer LLC/Illuminate Holdings IV, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 8,125,000 144A, 9.000%, 7/1/2028 7,599,719 Olympus Water US Holding Corp., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 17,475,000 4.250%, 10/1/2028 13,962,001 Olympus Water US Holding Corp., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 16.175.000 9.750%, 11/15/2028 15,818,357 19.700.000 Olympus Water US Holding Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.250%, 10/1/2029 14,793,025 18,000,000 Polar US Borrower LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2026 8,026,470 SPCM SA, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.125%, 3/15/2027 2,325,000 2,062,883 SPCM SA, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.375%, 3/15/2030 4,500,000 3,607,262 7,625,000 WR Grace Holdings LLC, 144A, 4.875%, 6/15/2027 6,859,512 4,050,000 WR Grace Holdings LLC, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.375%, 3/1/2031 3,757,954 WR Grace Holdings LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 8/15/2029 14,025,000 10.882.839 169,938,097 TOTAL Construction Machinery—0.8% H&E Equipment Services, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 29.075.000 3.875%, 12/15/2028 24,659,252 3,925,000 Ritchie Bros Holdings, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.750%, 3/15/2028 3,851,320 4.325.000 Ritchie Bros Holdings, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.750%, 3/15/2031 4,341,219 2.500.000 United Rentals North America, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 3.750%, 1/15/2032 1.991.182

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Value CORPORATE BONDS—continued Diversified Manufacturing—continued \$ 18,100,000 WESCO Distribution, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.250%, 6/15/2028 18,004,434 TOTAL 112,412,754 Finance Companies—2.4% 14.900.000 GTCR W. Merger Sub LLC, 144A, 7.500%, 1/15/2031 14,724,925 14.225.000 Navient Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.875%, 3/15/2028 11.698.366 8.050.000 Navient Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.000%, 3/15/2027 7.078.647 11.850.000 Navient Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.500%, 3/15/2029 9.612.246 12.100.000 Navient Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6,750%, 6/25/2025 11.814.380 6.400.000 Navient Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.750%, 6/15/2026 6.069.888 17.400.000 Quicken Loans LLC / Quicken Loans Co-Issuer, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note. 144A, 3.625%, 3/1/2029 14.163.656 Quicken Loans LLC / Quicken Loans Co-Issuer, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 18,475,000 144A, 3.875%, 3/1/2031 14,307,594 17,150,000 Rocket Mortgage Co-Issuer, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 14,949,826 2.875%, 10/15/2026 11.300.000 Rocket Mortgage Co-Issuer, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.000%, 10/15/2033 8,318,721 35,400,000 United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 11/15/2025 33,690,484 19,600,000 United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 4/15/2029 16,436,756 12,275,000 United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 6/15/2027 11,181,850 TOTAL 174,047,339 Food & Beverage—1.4% Aramark Services, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 4/1/2025 2,125,000 2,079,170 Aramark Services, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 2/1/2028 1.175.000 1.078.795 Bellring Brands, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 3/15/2030 19,450,000 18.910.846 17,025,000 Performance Food Group, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 8/1/2029 14,383,154 3.700.000 Performance Food Group, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 10/15/2027 3,463,660 Post Holdings, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 12/15/2029 12,325,000 11,003,746 9,675,000 Post Holdings, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 1/15/2028 9,000,701 12,792,000 Post Holdings, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 3/1/2027 12,206,597 3,550,000 US Foods, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 6/1/2030 3,034,615 US Foods, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 2/15/2029 20,375,000 17,993,207 8.225.000 US Foods, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 9/15/2028 8.049.096 TOTAL 101.203.587 Gaming—4.8% 26,175,000 Affinity Gaming LLC, 144A, 6.875%, 12/15/2027 21.357.517 12.800.000 Boyd Gaming Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.750%, 12/1/2027 11,671,937 5,575,000 Boyd Gaming Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 6/15/2031 4,633,347 5.750.000 Caesars Entertainment Corp., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.000%, 2/15/2030 5,554,603

Principal
Amount
or Shares

Value CORPORATE BONDS—continued Gaming—continued \$ 9,300,000 Caesars Entertainment Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 10/15/2029 7.652.426 5,525,000 CCM Merger, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.375%, 5/1/2026 5,234,344 Churchill Downs, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 4/1/2027 399,002 425,000 13,875,000 Churchill Downs, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.750%, 5/1/2031 12,817,031 Colt Merger Sub, Inc., Sr. Secd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 7/1/2025 19,875,000 19,581,222 Colt Merger Sub, Inc., Sr. Secd. Note, 144A, 6.250%, 7/1/2025 20,800,000 20,481,392 Colt Merger Sub, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.125%, 7/1/2027 22,275,000 22,089,650 Light & Wonder, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.500%, 9/1/2031 6,775,000 6,622,925 MGM Resorts International, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.750%, 5/1/2025 9,475,000 9,432,229 Midwest Gaming Borrower LLC, Sr. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 5/1/2029 11,850,000 9,875,790 Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority, 144A, 8.000%, 2/1/2026 43,225,000 39,762,894 Ontario Gaming GTA LP, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 8.000%, 8/1/2030 19,850,000 19,425,253 Penn National Gaming, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.125%, 7/1/2029 16,400,000 12,756,822 6,175,000 Penn National Gaming, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 1/15/2027 5,638,188 7,375,000 Raptor Acquistion Corp. / Raptor Co-Issuer LLC, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.875%, 11/1/2026 6,869,923 20,400,000 Scientific Games Holdings Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.625%, 3/1/2030 17,562,666 14,975,000 Scientific Games International, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.250%, 11/15/2029 14.537.206 33,600,000 Station Casinos, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.500%, 2/15/2028 29,050,258 4,300,000 Station Casinos, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 12/1/2031 3,400,053 3,200,000 Sugarhouse HSP Gaming Finance Corp., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5.875%, 5/15/2025 3,066,736 VICI Properties LP/ VICI Note Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 2,675,000 3.500%, 2/15/2025 2.553.749 3.875.000 VICI Properties LP/ VICI Note Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.125%, 8/15/2030 3,200,382 9.800.000 VICI Properties LP/ VICI Note Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 12/1/2026 9,053,935 VICI Properties LP/ VICI Note Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5,025,000 4.500%, 1/15/2028 4,552,058 1,900,000 VICI Properties LP/ VICI Note Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 12/1/2029 1,645,249 11,450,000 VICI Properties LP/ VICI Note Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 6/15/2025 11,008,545 1,500,000 VICI Properties LP/ VICI Note Co., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 5/1/2024 1,491,148 TOTAL 342,978,480 Health Care—4.8% Ardent Health Services, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 7/15/2029 9,604,998 11,700,000 Avantor Funding, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 11/1/2029 14,675,000 12,294,439 32,350,000 Avantor Funding, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 7/15/2028 28,834,835

Principal
Amount
or Shares

or Shares			Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued		
	Health Care—continued		
11,925,000	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc., 144A, 6.125%, 4/1/2030	\$	4,633,45
32,875,000	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc., 2nd Lien, 144A, 6.875%, 4/15/2029	-	13,608,77
9,425,000	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5.625%, 3/15/2027	-	7,664,68
3,025,000	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.000%, 1/15/2029	-	2,294,67
7,750,000	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 8.000%, 3/15/2026		7,094,54
15,700,000	CHS/Community Health Systems, Inc., Sr. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 5/15/2030	-	11,164,09
5,150,000	Embecta Corp., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5.000%, 2/15/2030	-	4,095,28
10,825,000	Embecta Corp., Sr. Note, 144A, 6.750%, 2/15/2030	•	8,986,21
2,400,000	Garden Spinco Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.625%, 7/20/2030	•	2,478,86
11,400,000	Global Medical Response, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.500%, 10/1/2025	-	7,259,29
10,850,000	HCA, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.375%, 2/1/2025	-	10,737,30
10,800,000	HCA, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.875%, 2/15/2026	•	10,707,53
8,350,000	IMS Health, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 10/15/2026	-	7,969,17
8,450,000	Iqvia, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 5/15/2027	-	7,958,41
1,425,000	Iqvia, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 5/15/2030	-	1,384,03
4,750,000	LifePoint Health, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.375%, 2/15/2027	-	3,932,19
7,325,000	LifePoint Health, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 1/15/2029	-	4,445,05
16,725,000	Mozart Debt Merger Sub., Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 3.875%, 4/1/2029		14,137,65
73,725,000	Mozart Debt Merger Sub., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 10/1/2029	-	62,828,94
3,050,000	MPH Acquisition Holdings LLC, Sr. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 9/1/2028	-	2,595,99
4,350,000	MPH Acquisition Holdings LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 11/1/2028	-	3,247,25
4,600,000	Teleflex, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.625%, 11/15/2027	-	4,213,57
1,550,000	Teleflex, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 6/1/2028	-	1,369,52
5,250,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp., 144A, 4.250%, 6/1/2029	-	4,498,52
17,575,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp., 144A, 4.875%, 1/1/2026	•	16,860,11
18,900,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp., 144A, 5.125%, 11/1/2027	•	17,465,25
13,775,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp., 144A, 6.250%, 2/1/2027	-	13,222,58
4,375,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.750%, 5/15/2031	•	4,160,11
29,850,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.125%, 10/1/2028	-	27,712,14
4,625,000	Tenet Healthcare Corp., Term Loan - 1st Lien, 4.625%, 6/15/2028	-	4,118,59
	TOTAL		343,578,14
	Health Insurance—0.6%		
4,075,000	Centene Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 3.375%, 2/15/2030		3,373,07
23,175,000	Centene Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 4.250%, 12/15/2027	-	21,349,04

Principal
Amount
or Shares

Value CORPORATE BONDS—continued Health Insurance—continued \$ 19,025,000 Centene Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 4.625%, 12/15/2029 17,011,028 TOTAL 41,733,147 Independent Energy—4.2% 7.225.000 Antero Resources Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 3/1/2030 6,599,531 2.475.000 Antero Resources Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.625%, 2/1/2029 2.508.346 6.075.000 Ascent Resources Utica Holdings LLC/ ARU Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 6/30/2029 5,372,916 Ascent Resources Utica Holdings LLC/ ARU Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. 9,350,000 9,037,886 Note, 144A, 7.000%, 11/1/2026 8,375,000 Ascent Resources Utica Holdings LLC/ ARU Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8,250%, 12/31/2028 8.324.149 2.971.000 Ascent Resources Utica Holdings LLC/ ARU Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 9.000%, 11/1/2027 3,763,529 9.050.000 Berry Petroleum Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 2/15/2026 8.695.692 6.450.000 Callon Petroleum Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.500%, 6/15/2030 6,254,234 4,150,000 Callon Petroleum Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 6.375%, 7/1/2026 4,056,829 1,900,000 <sup>1,3</sup>Chesapeake Energy Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.750%, 3/15/2099 43,700 10,175,000 <sup>1,3</sup>Chesapeake Energy Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 7.000%, 10/1/2099 234,025 2,250,000 Chesapeake Energy Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 2/1/2026 2,186,468 1.600.000 Chesapeake Energy Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 2/1/2029 1.507.978 Chord Energy Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.375%, 6/1/2026 2,200,000 2,162,039 4,775,000 Civitas Resources, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.625%, 11/1/2030 4,865,180 Civitas Resources, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.750%, 7/1/2031 3,250,000 3,284,179 Civitas Resources, Inc., Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.375%, 7/1/2028 11,850,000 11,937,822 9,475,000 Comstock Resources, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 1/15/2030 8,111,075 Comstock Resources, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.750%, 3/1/2029 23.750.000 21.633.930 3.725.000 Crownrock LP/ Crownrock F, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 5/1/2029 3,516,772 31.700.000 Crownrock LP/ Crownrock F. Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A. 31,211,900 5.625%, 10/15/2025 7,625,000 Endeavor Energy Resources LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 1/30/2028 7,322,287 11,525,000 Occidental Petroleum Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.875%, 9/1/2025 11,496,072 3,150,000 Occidental Petroleum Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.125%, 1/1/2031 3,083,645 5,750,000 Occidental Petroleum Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.625%, 9/1/2030 5,772,116 Occidental Petroleum Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 7.150%, 5/15/2028 2,500,000 2,560,088 Occidental Petroleum Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 8.875%, 7/15/2030 6,225,000 6,918,403 PDC Energy, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 5.750%, 5/15/2026 9,100,000 9,067,012 Permian Resources Operating LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 10,925,000 5.375%, 1/15/2026 10,499,165 17.525.000 Permian Resources Operating LLC, Sr. Unsecd, Note, 144A. 6.875%, 4/1/2027 17.256.955 10.019.000 Range Resources Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.875%, 5/15/2025 9.753.146 5,500,000 Range Resources Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 8.250%, 1/15/2029 5.622.312

Principal
Amount
or Shares

or Shares		Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued	
	Independent Energy—continued	
\$ 5,500,000	Range Resources Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 2/15/2030	\$ 4,889,912
12,200,000	Rockcliff Energy II LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 10/15/2029	11,024,817
6,375,000	Sitio Royalties Operating Partnership Lp / Sitio Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.875%, 11/1/2028	6,294,771
9,150,000	SM Energy Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.625%, 6/1/2025	8,915,559
4,450,000	SM Energy Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.500%, 7/15/2028	4,288,420
4,575,000	SM Energy Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.625%, 1/15/2027	4,450,186
9,175,000	SM Energy Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.750%, 9/15/2026	9,020,447
5,950,000	Southwestern Energy Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.750%, 2/1/2032	5,122,697
7,675,000	Southwestern Energy Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.375%, 3/15/2030	7,047,432
2,525,000	Southwestern Energy Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 8.375%, 9/15/2028	2,609,550
	TOTAL	298,323,172
	Industrial - Other—1.3%	
2,950,000	Madison lag LLC, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.125%, 6/30/2028	2,467,190
51,375,000	Madison lag LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 6/30/2029	39,855,456
24,425,000	Redwood Star Merger Sub, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.750%, 4/1/2030	22,419,097
10,075,000	Vertical Holdco GmbH, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.625%, 7/15/2028	9,096,975
21,675,000	Vertical U.S. Newco, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 7/15/2027	19,755,836
	TOTAL	93,594,554
	Insurance - P&C—7.0%	
30,950,000	AmWINS Group, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 6/30/2029	26,531,801
36,804,567	Ardonagh Midco 2 PLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 11.500% / 12.750% PIK, 1/15/2027	36,422,788
23,350,000	AssuredPartners, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 1/15/2029	19,831,055
31,650,000	AssuredPartners, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 8/15/2025	31,077,828
63,225,000	Broadstreet Partners, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 4/15/2029	55,179,107
18,700,000	GTCR AP Finance, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.000%, 5/15/2027	18,223,543
13,075,000	Hub International Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.250%, 6/15/2030	12,767,476
25,125,000	Hub International Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 12/1/2029	21,661,805
102,725,000	Hub International Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 5/1/2026	100,088,717
18,875,000	Jones Deslauriers Insurance Management, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 8.500%, 3/15/2030	18,562,404
19,300,000	Jones Deslauriers Insurance Management, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 10.500%, 12/15/2030	19,173,443
8,425,000	NFP Corp., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 7.500%, 10/1/2030	7,987,824
79,425,000	NFP Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 8/15/2028	67,928,612
11,675,000	Ryan Specialty Group, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.375%, 2/1/2030	10,014,588
57,550,000	USIS Merger Subsidiary, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 5/1/2025	57,083,557
	TOTAL	502,534,548
	Leisure—0.9%	
3,825,000	Carnival Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 8/15/2029	3,754,124
5,925,000	NCL Corp. Ltd., Sr. Secd. Note, 144A, 8.125%, 1/15/2029	5,795,029

Principal
Amount
or Shares

Amount or Shares			Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued		
	Leisure—continued		
\$ 11,075,000	NCL Corp. Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 3/15/2026	\$	9,949,669
2,425,000	NCL Corp. Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.750%, 2/15/2029		2,118,419
4,500,000	NCL Finance Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 3/15/2028	•	3,766,869
32,125,000	SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 8/15/2029		28,016,212
5,775,000	Six Flags Entertainment Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 4/15/2027		5,262,758
9,950,000	Six Flags Entertainment Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.250%, 5/15/2031		9,165,094
	TOTAL		67,828,174
	Lodging—0.7%		
3,875,000	Hilton Domestic Operating Company, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.625%, 2/15/2032	_	3,066,630
9,275,000	Hilton Domestic Operating Company, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.750%, 5/1/2029		7,992,967
5,050,000	Hilton Domestic Operating Company, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 5/1/2025	_	4,977,037
13,000,000	Hilton Domestic Operating Company, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 5/1/2028		12,467,068
3,225,000	Hilton Domestic Operating Company, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 4.875%, 1/15/2030		2,898,213
4,325,000	RHP Hotel Property/RHP Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.250%, 7/15/2028		4,196,758
4,325,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 7/15/2027		3,990,139
7,750,000	Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 8/31/2026		7,321,890
3,450,000	Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 8/15/2028		3,047,764
	TOTAL		49,958,466
	Media Entertainment—5.8%		
30,875,000	<sup>1,3</sup> Audacy Capital Corp., 144A, 6.500%, 5/1/2027	_	540,313
14,100,000	<sup>1,3</sup> Audacy Capital Corp., 144A, 6.750%, 3/31/2029		239,982
8,230,000	Cumulus Media News Holdings, Inc., 144A, 6.750%, 7/1/2026		5,891,980
8,175,000	<sup>1,3</sup> Diamond Sports Group LLC / Diamond Sports Finance Co., 144A, 5.375%, 8/15/2026		94,421
23,700,000	<sup>1,3</sup> Diamond Sports Group LLC / Diamond Sports Finance Co., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.625%, 8/15/2027		251,813
16,475,000	Gray Escrow II, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 11/15/2031		10,397,560
7,200,000	Gray Escrow, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.000%, 5/15/2027		6,112,512
14,075,000	Gray Television, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 10/15/2030		9,039,852
19,750,000	Gray Television, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 7/15/2026	_	17,607,289
5,302,564	iHeartCommunications, Inc., 6.375%, 5/1/2026	-	4,327,470
6,825,000	iHeartCommunications, Inc., 144A, 4.750%, 1/15/2028	_	4,835,967
5,800,000	iHeartCommunications, Inc., 144A, 5.250%, 8/15/2027		4,256,052

Principal
Amount
or Shares

or Shares		Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued	
	Metals & Mining—continued	
\$ 19,600,000	Coeur Mining, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.125%, 2/15/2029	\$ 16,336,796
	TOTAL	36,479,920
	Midstream—6.3%	
9,525,000	AmeriGas Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.500%, 5/20/2025	9,139,302
5,075,000	AmeriGas Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.750%, 5/20/2027	4,669,106
18,925,000	AmeriGas Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.875%, 8/20/2026	17,760,074
9,325,000	Antero Midstream Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 6/15/2029	8,476,219
23,650,000	Antero Midstream Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 3/1/2027	22,626,610
32,175,000	Antero Midstream Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.750%, 1/15/2028	30,195,639
14,600,000	Antero Midstream Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.875%, 5/15/2026	14,717,720
4,550,000	Cheniere Energy Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.000%, 3/1/2031	3,814,042
3,500,000	Cheniere Energy Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 3.250%, 1/31/2032	2,717,479
13,950,000	Cheniere Energy Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 4.500%, 10/1/2029	12,501,542
18,200,000	Cheniere Energy, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, Series WI, 4.625%, 10/15/2028	16,645,439
20,350,000	CNX Midstream Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 4/15/2030	16,789,409
11,575,000	Crestwood Midstream Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.375%, 2/1/2031	11,679,233
17,675,000	DT Midstream, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 6/15/2031	14,695,785
21,375,000	EQM Midstream Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.500%, 7/15/2028	19,969,200
10,675,000	EQM Midstream Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.500%, 7/15/2048	9,037,851
10,000,000	EQM Midstream Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.500%, 1/15/2029	8,779,460
24,275,000	EQM Midstream Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 1/15/2031	20,466,316
2,120,000	EQM Midstream Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.000%, 7/1/2025	2,075,264
17,100,000	EQM Midstream Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 7/1/2027	16,637,857
1,600,000	EQM Midstream Partners, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.500%, 6/1/2027	1,586,248
4,550,000	Hess Midstream Operations LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.250%, 2/15/2030	3,897,602
1,525,000	Hess Midstream Operations LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 10/15/2030	1,385,837
575,000	Hess Midstream Operations LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 2/15/2026	557,413
15,300,000	Hess Midstream Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.125%, 6/15/2028	14,141,604
19,150,000	Holly Energy Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 2/1/2028	17,746,113

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or Shares		Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued	
	Midstream—continued	
\$ 16,700,000	Oasis Midstream Partners, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.000%, 4/1/2029	\$ 17,086,271
8,250,000	Solaris Midstream Holdings LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.625%, 4/1/2026	7,877,305
12,600,000	Suburban Propane Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.875%, 3/1/2027	11,951,289
30,250,000	Suburban Propane Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A,	11,701,207
00,200,000	5.000%, 6/1/2031	25,087,802
4,250,000	Summit Midstream Holdings LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.750%, 4/15/2025	4,002,477
3,425,000	Targa Resources Partners LP / Targa Resources Partners Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.875%, 2/1/2031	3,022,674
13,625,000	Targa Resources Partners LP / Targa Resources Partners Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.000%, 1/15/2028	12,871,878
4,200,000	Targa Resources Partners LP / Targa Resources Partners Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.500%, 7/15/2027	4,154,745
24,050,000	Targa Resources Partners LP / Targa Resources Partners Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 3/1/2030	22,183,384
7,700,000	TransMontaigne Partners LP/TLP Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.125%, 2/15/2026	6,578,418
5,275,000	Western Gas Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.500%, 3/1/2028	4,876,432
5,100,000	Western Gas Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.650%, 7/1/2026	4,882,911
3,750,000	Western Gas Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.750%, 8/15/2028	3,492,033
22,850,000	Western Gas Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.300%, 3/1/2048	17,093,710
5,925,000	Western Midstream Operating, LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.050%, 2/1/2030	5,142,164
	TOTAL	453,011,857
	Oil Field Services—2.1%	
29,450,000	Archrock Partners LP / Archrock Partners Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.250%, 4/1/2028	27,383,346
29,575,000	Archrock Partners LP / Archrock Partners Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 4/1/2027	28,461,107
15,750,000	Nabors Industries Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.250%, 1/15/2026	14,808,701
6,900,000	Nabors Industries Ltd., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.500%, 1/15/2028	6,100,290
1,275,000	Nabors Industries, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.375%, 5/15/2027	1,186,406
9,875,000	Precision Drilling Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.875%, 1/15/2029	9,152,971
8,475,000	Precision Drilling Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.125%, 1/15/2026	8,358,638
24,625,000	USA Compression Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.875%, 9/1/2027	23,619,006
29,350,000	USA Compression Partners LP, Sr. Unsecd. Note, Series WI, 6.875%, 4/1/2026	28,532,427
	TOTAL	147,602,892
	Packaging—4.5%	
36,389,354	ARD Finance SA, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.500%, 6/30/2027	21,255,185
23,400,000	Ardagh Metal Packaging, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.000%, 9/1/2029	17,582,159
37,225,000	Ardagh Packaging Finance PLC/Ardagh Holdings, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5.250%, 8/15/2027	27,121,735
32,325,000	Ardagh Packaging Finance PLC/Ardagh Holdings, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 8/15/2027	23,551,648
	Ball Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 2.875%, 8/15/2030	10,837,794

or Shares		Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued	
	Packaging—continued	
\$ 1,475,000	Ball Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 3.125%, 9/15/2031	\$ 1,143,786
6,325,000	Ball Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.000%, 6/15/2029	6,072,511
10,650,000	Ball Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.875%, 3/15/2028	10,629,739
5,350,000	Berry Global Escrow Corp., 144A, 5.625%, 7/15/2027	5,112,472
13,375,000	Bway Holding Co., 144A, 7.875%, 8/15/2026	12,540,653
16,450,000	Bway Holding Co., 144A, 9.250%, 4/15/2027	13,717,806
76,325,000	Clydesdale Acquisition Holdings, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.750%, 4/15/2030	60,920,692
8,600,000	Crown Americas LLC / Crown Americas Capital Corp. VI, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.750%, 2/1/2026	8,280,053
5,425,000	OI European Group BV, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 2/15/2030	4,623,294
26,950,000	Owens-Brockway Glass Container, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.375%, 8/15/2025	26,324,760
8,438,000	Owens-Brockway Glass Container, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.625%, 5/13/2027	8,025,129
9,450,000	Owens-Brockway Glass Container, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.250%, 5/15/2031	8,658,563
3,950,000	Sealed Air Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.000%, 12/1/2027	3,476,780
2,525,000	Sealed Air Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 4/15/2029	2,242,312
6,125,000	Sealed Air Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.125%, 2/1/2028	5,837,518
7,350,000	Trivium Packaging Finance BV, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5.500%, 8/15/2026	6,674,342
47,425,000	Trivium Packaging Finance BV, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.500%, 8/15/2027	39,643,602
	TOTAL	324,272,533
	Paper—0.5%	
13,825,000	Clearwater Paper Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 8/15/2028	12,218,051
11,491,000	Clearwater Paper Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 2/1/2025	11,601,601
2,225,000	Graphic Packaging International, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.500%, 3/15/2028	1,927,708
13,475,000	Graphic Packaging International, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.500%, 3/1/2029	11,208,439
1,025,000	Graphic Packaging International, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.750%, 2/1/2030	839,491
1,250,000	Graphic Packaging International, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 7/15/2027	1,165,325
	TOTAL	38,960,615
	Pharmaceuticals—1.6%	
8,850,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.875%, 6/1/2028	4,424,514
5,050,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 5.750%, 8/15/2027	2,630,772
2,100,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.125%, 2/1/2027	1,173,732
6,525,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 1/30/2028	2,400,604
14,000,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 2/15/2029	4,921,280
7,350,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 1/30/2030	2,552,876
3,975,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 2/15/2031	1,395,285

Principal
Amount
or Shares

Amount or Shares		Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued	
	Pharmaceuticals—continued	
\$ 27,100,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.250%, 2/15/2029	\$ 9,929,847
23,725,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.250%, 5/30/2029	9,008,738
15,950,000	Bausch Health Cos., Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.500%, 1/31/2027	7,153,097
37,350,000	Grifols Escrow Issuer SA, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 10/15/2028	31,406,12
18,300,000	Jazz Securities Designated Activity Co., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.375%, 1/15/2029	15,930,763
3,400,000	Organon Finance 1 LLC, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 4.125%, 4/30/2028	2,939,929
23,600,000	Organon Finance 1 LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.125%, 4/30/2031	18,453,83
	TOTAL	114,321,389
	Restaurant—1.5%	
2,925,000	1011778 BC Unltd. Liability Co./New Red Finance, Inc., 144A, 3.875%, 1/15/2028	2,613,978
76,875,000	1011778 BC Unltd. Liability Co./New Red Finance, Inc., 144A, 4.000%, 10/15/2030	63,035,755
8,900,000	1011778 BC Unltd. Liability Co./New Red Finance, Inc., 144A, 4.375%, 1/15/2028	8,021,585
6,050,000	KFC Holding Co./Pizza Hut Holdings LLC/Taco Bell of America LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 6/1/2027	5,726,779
4,975,000	Yum! Brands, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 3.625%, 3/15/2031	4,045,109
7,150,000	Yum! Brands, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.625%, 1/31/2032	6,100,184
5,825,000	Yum! Brands, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 5.375%, 4/1/2032	5,242,52
13,200,000	Yum! Brands, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 1/15/2030	11,765,886
	TOTAL	106,551,80
	Retailers—0.8%	
16,225,000	Academy Ltd., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.000%, 11/15/2027	15,292,87
13,775,000	Asbury Automotive Group, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 11/15/2029	11,669,652
5,600,000	Asbury Automotive Group, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 2/15/2032	4,547,793
8,325,000	Gap (The), Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.625%, 10/1/2029	6,369,25
9,525,000	Gap (The), Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 10/1/2031	6,850,69
5,525,000	Kontoor Brands, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.125%, 11/15/2029	4,555,20
1,750,000	LCM Investments Holdings II, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 5/1/2029	1,468,386
9,800,000	LCM Investments Holdings II, LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 8/1/2031	9,331,578
	TOTAL	60,085,446
	Supermarkets—0.7%	
6,800,000	Albertsons Cos. LLC/SAFEW, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.250%, 3/15/2026	6,287,95
14,775,000	Albertsons Cos. LLC/SAFEW, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.500%, 3/15/2029	12,613,358
13,275,000	Albertsons Cos. LLC/SAFEW, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 2/15/2028	12,729,050

or Shares		Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued	
	Technology—continued	
17,450,000	Open Text Corp OLD, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 2/15/2028	\$ 15,186,035
8,000,000	Open Text Holdings, Inc. / Open Text Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.125%, 12/1/2031	6,293,154
33,325,000	Picard Midco, Inc., Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.500%, 3/31/2029	29,289,599
3,000,000	Qorvo, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.375%, 10/15/2029	2,607,970
19,300,000	Rackspace Technology, Inc., 144A, 3.500%, 2/15/2028	8,494,83
26,250,000	Rackspace Technology, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.375%, 12/1/2028	7,702,023
39,575,000	Rocket Software, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 2/15/2029	32,318,72
2,500,000	Science Applications International Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.875%, 4/1/2028	2,233,467
1,150,000	Seagate HDD Cayman, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.250%, 12/15/2029	1,170,018
7,300,000	Seagate HDD Cayman, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 8.500%, 7/15/2031	7,436,787
26,409,625	Seagate HDD Cayman, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 9.625%, 12/1/2032	28,182,530
3,100,000	Sensata Technologies BV, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.375%, 2/15/2030	2,623,64
8,400,000	Sensata Technologies BV, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.875%, 9/1/2030	7,681,70
4,450,000	Sensata Technologies, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.750%, 2/15/2031	3,567,57
39,225,000	SS&C Technologies, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 9/30/2027	36,842,95
6,925,000	Synaptics, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.000%, 6/15/2029	5,721,95
13,500,000	TTM Technologies, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.000%, 3/1/2029	11,086,80
13,100,000	Veritas US, Inc./Veritas Bermuda, Ltd., Sr. Secd. Note, 144A, 7.500%, 9/1/2025	10,734,50
4,075,000	Viavi Solutions, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.750%, 10/1/2029	3,176,49
14,025,000	ZipRecruiter, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 1/15/2030	10,968,60
	TOTAL	785,286,55
	Transportation Services—0.5%	
14,725,000	Stena International SA, Sec. Fac. Bond, 144A, 6.125%, 2/1/2025	14,445,88
21,800,000	Watco Cos. LLC/Finance Co., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 6/15/2027	20,334,916
	TOTAL	 34,780,804
	Utility - Electric—2.8%	
13,300,000	Calpine Corp., 144A, 4.500%, 2/15/2028	12,004,959
14,650,000	Calpine Corp., Sr. Secd. Note, 144A, 3.750%, 3/1/2031	11,690,40
7,900,000	Calpine Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.625%, 2/1/2029	6,678,95
6,625,000	Calpine Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 2/1/2031	5,350,23
9,500,000	Calpine Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.125%, 3/15/2028	8,510,87
33,325,000	Enviva Partners LP/Enviva Partners Finance Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 6.500%, 1/15/2026	23,447,30
4,375,000	NRG Energy, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 6.625%, 1/15/2027	4,250,243
6,150,000	NRG Energy, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.375%, 2/15/2029	5,012,69
6,450,000	NRG Energy, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.625%, 2/15/2031	4,875,40
23,200,000	NRG Energy, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 3.875%, 2/15/2032	17,275,880
-11000		
7,375,000	NRG Energy, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.250%, 6/15/2029	6,515,15

Principal Amount
or Shares

or Shares		Value
	CORPORATE BONDS—continued	
	Utility - Electric—continued	
\$ 11,875,000	TerraForm Power Operating LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 4.750%, 1/15/2030	\$ 10,048,15
27,175,000	TerraForm Power Operating LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 1/31/2028	24,922,32
8,350,000	TransAlta Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 7.750%, 11/15/2029	8,316,79
8,750,000	Vistra Operations Co., LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.000%, 7/31/2027	8,012,34
9,650,000	Vistra Operations Co., LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.500%, 9/1/2026	9,189,81
27,450,000	Vistra Operations Co., LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 5.625%, 2/15/2027	25,856,07
4,050,000	Vistra Operations Co., LLC, Sr. Unsecd. Note, 144A, 7.750%, 10/15/2031	3,914,02
	TOTAL	199,923,93
	Wireless Communications—0.5%	
20,425,000	Sprint Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 7.125%, 6/15/2024	20,552,57
7,400,000	Sprint Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 7.625%, 2/15/2025	7,511,19
2,600,000	Sprint Corp., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 7.625%, 3/1/2026	2,672,17
4,700,000	T-Mobile USA, Inc., Sr. Unsecd. Note, 4.750%, 2/1/2028	4,475,17
	TOTAL	35,211,11
	TOTAL CORPORATE BONDS (IDENTIFIED COST \$8,064,963,225)	6,894,474,10
	COMMON STOCKS—0.3%	
	Cable Satellite—0.0%	
33,782	<sup>2,3</sup> Intelsat Jackson Holdings SA.	236,47
	Media Entertainment—0.0%	
141,935	<sup>3</sup> iHeartMedia, Inc.	333,54
	Oil Field Services—0.3%	
307,121	<sup>3</sup> Superior Energy Services, Inc.	22,752,44
	TOTAL COMMON STOCKS (IDENTIFIED COST \$8,311,297)	23,322,46
	INVESTMENT COMPANY—2.4%	
168,580,302	Federated Hermes Institutional Prime Value Obligations Fund,	
	Institutional Shares, 5.45% <sup>4</sup> (IDENTIFIED COST \$168,592,554)	168,580,30
	TOTAL INVESTMENT IN SECURITIES—98.8% (IDENTIFIED COST \$8,241,867,076) <sup>5</sup>	7,086,376,87
	OTHER ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - NET—1.2% <sup>6</sup>	87,498,64
	TOTAL NET ASSETS—100%	\$7,173,875,51

Transactions with affiliated investment companies, which are funds managed by the Adviser or an affiliate of the Adviser, during the period ended October 31, 2023, were as follows:

	Ob	erated Hermes Institutional Prime Value ligations Fund, itutional Shares
Value as of 10/31/2022	\$	193,240,952
Purchases at Cost	\$	1,236,661,335
Proceeds from Sales	\$(	1,261,465,677)
Change in Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation	\$	47,709
Net Realized Gain/(Loss)	\$	95,983
Value as of 10/31/2023	\$	168,580,302
Shares Held as of 10/31/2023		168,580,302
Dividend Income	\$	9,738,759

- 1 Issuer in default.
- 2 Market quotations and price valuations are not available. Fair value determined using significant unobservable inputs in accordance with procedures established by and under the supervision of the Fund's Adviser acting through its Valuation Committee.
- 3 Non-income-producing security.
- 4 7-day net yield.
- 5 The cost of investments for federal tax purposes amounts to \$8,260,655,602.
- 6 Assets, other than investments in securities, less liabilities. See Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Note: The categories of investments are shown as a percentage of total net assets at October 31, 2023.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund's investments. These inputs are summarized in the three broad levels listed below:

Level 1—quoted prices in active markets for identical securities.

Level 2—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.). Also includes securities valued at amortized cost.

Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used, as of October 31, 2023, in valuing the Fund's assets carried at fair value:

#### **Valuation Inputs**

	Q	vel 1— uoted rices	Level 2— Other Significant Observable Inputs	Sig Unob	vel 3— nificant oservable nputs	Total
Debt Securities:						
Corporate Bonds	\$	_	\$6,894,474,104	\$	0	\$6,894,474,104
Equity Securities:						
Common Stocks						
Domestic		333,547	22,752,445	i	_	23,085,992
International		_	_	- 2	36,474	236,474
Investment Company	168	,580,302	_		_	168,580,302
TOTAL SECURITIES	\$168	,913,849	\$6,917,226,549	\$2	36,474	\$7,086,376,872

The following acronym(s) are used throughout this portfolio:

GMTN—Global Medium Term Note

PIK —Payment in Kind

### Financial Highlights – Class A Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout the Period)

	Period Ended 10/31/2023 <sup>1</sup>
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$8.57
Income From Investment Operations:	
Net investment income (loss) <sup>2</sup>	0.35
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.31)
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	0.04
Less Distributions:	
Distributions from net investment income	(0.35)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$8.26
Total Return <sup>3</sup>	0.50%
Ratios to Average Net Assets:	
Net expenses <sup>4</sup>	0.74% <sup>5</sup>
Net investment income	5.74% <sup>5</sup>
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>6</sup>	0.06% <sup>5</sup>
Supplemental Data:	
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$12,066
Portfolio turnover <sup>7</sup>	14% <sup>8</sup>

- 1 Reflects operations for the period from February 9, 2023 (commencement of operations) to October 31, 2023.
- 2 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.
- 3 Based on net asset value, which does not reflect the sales charge, redemption fee or contingent deferred sales charge, if applicable. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.
- 4 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 5 Computed on an annualized basis.
- 6 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 7 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.
- 8 Portfolio turnover is calculated at the Fund level. Percentage indicated was calculated for the year ended October 31, 2023.

### Financial Highlights – Class C Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout the Period)

	Period Ended 10/31/2023 <sup>1</sup>
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$8.57
Income From Investment Operations:	
Net investment income (loss) <sup>2</sup>	0.30
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.34)
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	(0.04)
Less Distributions:	
Distributions from net investment income	(0.31)
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$8.22
Total Return <sup>3</sup>	(0.52)%
Ratios to Average Net Assets:	
Net expenses <sup>4</sup>	1.49% <sup>5</sup>
Net investment income	4.87% <sup>5</sup>
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>6</sup>	0.05% <sup>5</sup>
Supplemental Data:	
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$901
Portfolio turnover <sup>7</sup>	14% <sup>8</sup>

- 1 Reflects operations for the period from February 9, 2023 (commencement of operations) to October 31, 2023.
- 2 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.
- 3 Based on net asset value, which does not reflect the sales charge, redemption fee or contingent deferred sales charge, if applicable. Total returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized.
- 4 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 5 Computed on an annualized basis.
- 6 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 7 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.
- 8 Portfolio turnover is calculated at the Fund level. Percentage indicated was calculated for the year ended October 31, 2023.

### Financial Highlights – Institutional Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Year Ended October 31,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$8.32	\$9.91	\$9.57	\$9.78	\$9.56
Income From Investment Operations:	_				
Net investment income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	0.51	0.48	0.48	0.52	0.56
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.06)	(1.57)	0.37	(0.21)	0.24
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	0.45	(1.09)	0.85	0.31	0.80
Less Distributions:					
Distributions from net investment income	(0.52)	(0.50)	(0.51)	(0.52)	(0.58)
Redemption fees	_	_	_	_	0.00 <sup>2</sup>
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$8.25	\$8.32	\$9.91	\$9.57	\$9.78
Total Return <sup>3</sup>	5.42%	(11.30)%	8.94%	3.39%	8.60%
Ratios to Average Net Assets:					
Net expenses <sup>4</sup>	0.49%	0.49%	0.49%	0.49%	0.49%
Net investment income	6.03%	5.30%	4.76%	5.48%	5.77%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.06%	0.05%
Supplemental Data:					
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$5,202,252	\$5,542,801	\$7,425,236	\$6,287,623	\$5,773,584
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	14%	12%	32%	32%	26%

<sup>1</sup> Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.

<sup>2</sup> Represents less than \$0.01.

<sup>3</sup> Based on net asset value.

<sup>4</sup> Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

<sup>5</sup> This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.

<sup>6</sup> Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

### Financial Highlights – Class R6 Shares

(For a Share Outstanding Throughout Each Period)

	Year Ended October 31,				
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Net Asset Value, Beginning of Period	\$8.32	\$9.92	\$9.57	\$9.79	\$9.56
Income From Investment Operations:	_				
Net investment income (loss) <sup>1</sup>	0.51	0.48	0.47	0.51	0.56
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	(0.06)	(1.58)	0.39	(0.21)	0.25
TOTAL FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS	0.45	(1.10)	0.86	0.30	0.81
Less Distributions:					
Distributions from net investment income	(0.52)	(0.50)	(0.51)	(0.52)	(0.58)
Redemption fees	_	_	_	_	0.00 <sup>2</sup>
Net Asset Value, End of Period	\$8.25	\$8.32	\$9.92	\$9.57	\$9.79
Total Return <sup>3</sup>	5.43%	(11.38)%	9.06%	3.29%	8.72%
Ratios to Average Net Assets:					
Net expenses <sup>4</sup>	0.48%	0.48%	0.48%	0.48%	0.48%
Net investment income	6.03%	5.29%	4.78%	5.34%	5.80%
Expense waiver/reimbursement <sup>5</sup>	0.02%	0.02%	0.01%	0.03%	0.02%
Supplemental Data:					
Net assets, end of period (000 omitted)	\$1,958,657	\$1,669,728	\$2,679,769	\$3,059,665	\$1,142,761
Portfolio turnover <sup>6</sup>	14%	12%	32%	32%	26%

- 1 Per share numbers have been calculated using the average shares method.
- 2 Represents less than \$0.01.
- 3 Based on net asset value.
- 4 Amount does not reflect net expenses incurred by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 5 This expense decrease is reflected in both the net expense and the net investment income (loss) ratios shown above. Amount does not reflect expense waiver/reimbursement recorded by investment companies in which the Fund may invest.
- 6 Securities that mature are considered sales for purposes of this calculation.

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities

October 31, 2023

### Assets:

Investment in securities, at value including \$168,580,302 of investments in affiliated holdings* (identified cost \$8,241,867,076, including \$168,592,554 of identified cost in affiliated holdings)	\$ 7,086,376,872
Income receivable	132,621,704
Income receivable from affiliated holdings	781,462
Receivable for investments sold	8,320,931
Receivable for shares sold	6,724,050
TOTAL ASSETS	7,234,825,019
Liabilities:	
Payable for shares redeemed	49,679,001
Payable to bank	5,426,600
Income distribution payable	5,058,948
Payable for investment adviser fee (Note 5)	69,960
Payable for administrative fee (Note 5)	15,250
Payable for Directors'/Trustees' fees (Note 5)	7,618
Payable for distribution services fee (Note 5)	545
Payable for other service fees (Notes 2 and 5)	2,526
Accrued expenses (Note 5)	689,058
TOTAL LIABILITIES	60,949,506
Net assets for 869,723,713 shares outstanding	\$ 7,173,875,513
Net Assets Consist of:	
Paid-in capital	\$ 8,655,301,848
Total distributable earnings (loss)	(1,481,426,335)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ 7,173,875,513

### Statement of Assets and Liabilities - continued

Net Asset Value, Offering Price and Redemption Proceeds Per Share:	
Class A Shares:	
\$12,066,417 ÷ 1,461,616 shares outstanding, no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$8.26
Offering price per share (100/95.50 of \$8.26)	\$8.65
Redemption proceeds per share	\$8.26
Class C Shares:	
\$900,599 ÷ 109,517 shares outstanding, no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$8.22
Offering price per share	\$8.22
Redemption proceeds per share (99.00/100 of \$8.22)	\$8.14
Institutional Shares:	
\$5,202,251,826 ÷ 630,771,484 shares outstanding, no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$8.25
Offering price per share	\$8.25
Redemption proceeds per share	\$8.25
Class R6 Shares:	
\$1,958,656,671 ÷ 237,381,096 shares outstanding, no par value, unlimited shares authorized	\$8.25
Offering price per share	\$8.25
Redemption proceeds per share	\$8.25

<sup>\*</sup> See information listed after the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

# Statement of Operations

Year Ended October 31, 2023

Investment Income:	_
Interest	\$ 483,611,611
Dividends received from affiliated holdings*	9,738,759
TOTAL INCOME	493,350,370
Expenses:	
Investment adviser fee (Note 5)	30,267,145
Administrative fee (Note 5)	5,910,413
Custodian fees	191,789
Transfer agent fees (Note 2)	3,129,174
Directors'/Trustees' fees (Note 5)	45,102
Auditing fees	42,172
Legal fees	11,300
Portfolio accounting fees	246,482
Distribution services fee (Note 5)	1,048
Other service fees (Notes 2 and 5)	11,467
Share registration costs	192,269
Printing and postage	432,704
Miscellaneous (Note 5)	59,884
TOTAL EXPENSES	40,540,949
Waiver and Reimbursements:	
Waiver/reimbursement of investment adviser fee (Note 5)	(1,463,934)
Reimbursement of other operating expenses (Notes 2 and 5)	(1,820,972)
TOTAL WAIVER AND REIMBURSEMENTS	(3,284,906)
Net expenses	37,256,043
Net investment income	456,094,327
Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments:	
Net realized loss on investments (including net realized gain of \$95,983 on sales of investments in affiliated holdings*)	- (121,498,837)
Net change in unrealized depreciation of investments (including net change in unrealized depreciation of \$47,709 on investments in affiliated holdings*)	67,646,931
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments	(53,851,906)
Change in net assets resulting from operations	\$ 402,242,421

<sup>\*</sup> See information listed after the Fund's Portfolio of Investments.

# Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended October 31	2023	2022
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets		
Operations:		
Net investment income	\$ 456,094,327	\$ 453,962,669
Net realized gain (loss)	(121,498,837)	(79,541,336)
Net change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation	67,646,931	(1,423,973,948)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM OPERATIONS	402,242,421	(1,049,552,615)
Distributions to Shareholders:		
Class A Shares <sup>1</sup>	(256,440)	_
Class C Shares <sup>1</sup>	(6,881)	_
Institutional Shares	(342,550,009)	(356,910,767)
Class R6 Shares	(121,768,212)	(111,050,921)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS	(464,581,542)	(467,961,688)
Share Transactions:		
Proceeds from sale of shares	2,270,570,864	2,382,875,139
Net asset value of shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	400,999,024	389,853,376
Cost of shares redeemed	(2,647,884,106)	(4,147,689,990)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS RESULTING FROM SHARE TRANSACTIONS	23,685,782	(1,374,961,475)
Change in net assets	(38,653,339)	(2,892,475,778)
Net Assets:		
Beginning of period	7,212,528,852	10,105,004,630
End of period	\$ 7,173,875,513	\$ 7,212,528,852

<sup>1</sup> Reflects operations for the period from February 9, 2023 (commencement of operations) to October 31, 2023.

#### Notes to Financial Statements

October 31, 2023

#### 1. ORGANIZATION

Federated Hermes Institutional Trust (the "Trust") is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Act"), as an open-end management investment company. The Trust consists of three portfolios. The financial statements included herein are only those of Federated Hermes Institutional High Yield Bond Fund (the "Fund"), a diversified portfolio. The financial statements of the other portfolios are presented separately. The assets of each portfolio are segregated and a shareholder's interest is limited to the portfolio in which shares are held. Each portfolio pays its own expenses. The Fund offers four classes of shares: Class A Shares, Class C Shares, Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares. All shares of the Fund have equal rights with respect to voting, except on class-specific matters. The investment objective of the Fund is to seek high current income.

Class A Shares and Class C Shares commenced operations on February 9, 2023.

#### 2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements. These policies are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

#### Investment Valuation

In calculating its net asset value (NAV), the Fund generally values investments as follows:

- Fixed-income securities are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by Federated Investment Management Company (the "Adviser").
- Shares of other mutual funds or non-exchange-traded investment companies are valued based upon their reported NAVs, or NAV per share practical expedient, as applicable.
- Equity securities listed on an exchange or traded through a regulated market system are valued at their last reported sale price or official closing price in their principal exchange or market.
- Derivative contracts listed on exchanges are valued at their reported settlement or closing price, except that options are valued at the mean of closing bid and ask quotations.
- Over-the-counter (OTC) derivative contracts are fair valued using price evaluations provided by a pricing service approved by the Adviser.
- For securities that are fair valued in accordance with procedures established by and under the general supervision of the Adviser, certain factors may be considered, such as: the last traded or purchase price of the security, information obtained by contacting the issuer or dealers, analysis of the issuer's financial statements or other available documents, fundamental analytical data, the nature and duration of restrictions on disposition, the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded, public trading in similar securities or derivative contracts of the issuer or comparable issuers, movement of a relevant index, or other factors including but not limited to industry changes and relevant government actions.

If any price, quotation, price evaluation or other pricing source is not readily available when the NAV is calculated, if the Fund cannot obtain price evaluations from a pricing service or from more than one dealer for an investment within a reasonable period of time as set forth in the Adviser's valuation policies and procedures for the Fund, or if information furnished by a pricing service, in the opinion of the Adviser's valuation committee ("Valuation Committee"), is deemed not representative of the fair value of such security, the Fund uses the fair value of the investment determined in accordance with the procedures described below. There can be no assurance that the Fund could obtain the fair value assigned to an investment if it sold the investment at approximately the time at which the Fund determines its NAV per share, and the actual value obtained could be materially different.

#### Fair Valuation and Significant Events Procedures

Pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the Act, the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Trustees") has designated the Adviser as the Fund's valuation designee to perform any fair value determinations for securities and other assets held by the Fund. The Adviser is subject to the Trustees' oversight and certain reporting and other requirements intended to provide the Trustees the information needed to oversee the Adviser's fair value determinations.

The Adviser, acting through its Valuation Committee, is responsible for determining the fair value of investments for which market quotations are not readily available. The Valuation Committee is comprised of officers of the Adviser and certain of the Adviser's affiliated companies and determines fair value and oversees the calculation of the NAV. The Valuation Committee is also authorized to use pricing services to provide fair value evaluations of the current value of certain investments for purposes of calculating the NAV. The Valuation Committee employs various methods for reviewing third-party pricing-service evaluations including periodic reviews of third-party pricing services' policies, procedures and valuation methods (including key inputs, methods, models and assumptions), transactional back-testing, comparisons of evaluations of different pricing services, and review of price challenges by the Adviser based on recent market activity. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the Valuation Committee determines the fair value of the investment in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser. The Trustees periodically review the fair valuations made by the Valuation Committee. The Trustees have also approved the Adviser's fair valuation and significant events procedures as part of the Fund's compliance program and will review any changes made to the procedures.

Factors considered by pricing services in evaluating an investment include the yields or prices of investments of comparable quality, coupon, maturity, call rights and other potential prepayments, terms and type, reported transactions, indications as to values from dealers and general market conditions. Some pricing services provide a single price evaluation reflecting the bid-side of the market for an investment (a "bid" evaluation). Other pricing services offer both bid evaluations and price evaluations indicative of a price between the prices bid and ask for the investment (a "mid" evaluation). The Fund normally uses bid evaluations for any U.S. Treasury and Agency securities, mortgage-backed securities and municipal securities. The Fund normally uses

mid evaluations for any other types of fixed-income securities and any OTC derivative contracts. In the event that market quotations and price evaluations are not available for an investment, the fair value of the investment is determined in accordance with procedures adopted by the Adviser.

The Adviser has also adopted procedures requiring an investment to be priced at its fair value whenever the Valuation Committee determines that a significant event affecting the value of the investment has occurred between the time as of which the price of the investment would otherwise be determined and the time as of which the NAV is computed. An event is considered significant if there is both an affirmative expectation that the investment's value will change in response to the event and a reasonable basis for quantifying the resulting change in value. Examples of significant events that may occur after the close of the principal market on which a security is traded, or after the time of a price evaluation provided by a pricing service or a dealer, include:

- With respect to securities traded principally in foreign markets, significant trends in U.S. equity markets or in the trading of foreign securities index futures contracts;
- Political or other developments affecting the economy or markets in which an issuer conducts its operations or its securities are traded;
- Announcements concerning matters such as acquisitions, recapitalizations, litigation developments, or a natural disaster affecting the issuer's operations or regulatory changes or market developments affecting the issuer's industry.

The Adviser has adopted procedures whereby the Valuation Committee uses a pricing service to provide factors to update the fair value of equity securities traded principally in foreign markets from the time of the close of their respective foreign stock exchanges to the pricing time of the Fund. For other significant events, the Fund may seek to obtain more current quotations or price evaluations from alternative pricing sources. If a reliable alternative pricing source is not available, the Valuation Committee will determine the fair value of the investment in accordance with the fair valuation procedures approved by the Adviser. The Trustees periodically review fair valuations made in response to significant events.

#### Repurchase Agreements

The Fund may invest in repurchase agreements for short-term liquidity purposes. It is the policy of the Fund to require the other party to a repurchase agreement to transfer to the Fund's custodian or sub-custodian eligible securities or cash with a market value (after transaction costs) at least equal to the repurchase price to be paid under the repurchase agreement. The eligible securities are transferred to accounts with the custodian or sub-custodian in which the Fund holds a "securities entitlement" and exercises "control" as those terms are defined in the Uniform Commercial Code. The Fund has established procedures for monitoring the market value of the transferred securities and requiring the transfer of additional eligible securities if necessary to equal at least the repurchase price. These procedures also allow the other party to require securities to be transferred from the account to the extent that their market value exceeds the repurchase price or in exchange for other eligible securities of equivalent market value.

The insolvency of the other party or other failure to repurchase the securities may delay the disposition of the underlying securities or cause the Fund to receive less than the full repurchase price. Under the terms of the repurchase agreement, any amounts received by the Fund in excess of the repurchase price and related transaction costs must be remitted to the other party.

The Fund may enter into repurchase agreements in which eligible securities are transferred into joint trading accounts maintained by the custodian or sub-custodian for investment companies and other clients advised by the Fund's Adviser and its affiliates. The Fund will participate on a pro rata basis with the other investment companies and clients in its share of the securities transferred under such repurchase agreements and in its share of proceeds from any repurchase or other disposition of such securities.

#### Investment Income, Gains and Losses, Expenses and Distributions

Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified-cost basis. Interest income and expenses are accrued daily. Dividend income and distributions to shareholders are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Foreign dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date or when the Fund is informed of the ex-dividend date. Distributions of net investment income, if any, are declared daily and paid monthly. Non-cash dividends included in dividend income, if any, are recorded at fair value. Amortization/accretion of premium and discount is included in investment income. Investment income, realized and unrealized gains and losses, and certain fund-level expenses are allocated to each class based on relative average daily net assets, except that select classes will bear certain expenses unique to those classes. Dividends are declared separately for each class. No class has preferential dividend rights; differences in per share dividend rates are generally due to differences in separate class expenses. The detail of the total fund expense waiver and reimbursements of \$3,284,906 is disclosed in various locations in this Note 2 and Note 5.

#### Transfer Agent Fees

For the year ended October 31, 2023, transfer agent fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Transfer Agent Fees Incurred	
Class A Shares	\$ 2,662	\$ (1,779)
Class C Shares	84	(33)
Institutional Shares	2,928,582	(1,819,160)
Class R6 Shares	197,846	_
TOTAL	\$3,129,174	\$(1,820,972)

#### Other Service Fees

The Fund may pay other service fees up to 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Fund's Class A Shares and Class C Shares to financial intermediaries or to Federated Shareholder Services Company (FSSC) for providing services to shareholders and maintaining shareholder accounts. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FSSC may voluntarily reimburse the Fund for other service fees.

For the year ended October 31, 2023, other service fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Other Service
	Fees Incurred
Class A Shares	\$11,124
Class C Shares	343
TOTAL	\$11,467

#### **Federal Taxes**

It is the Fund's policy to comply with the Subchapter M provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") and to distribute to shareholders each year substantially all of its income. Accordingly, no provision for federal income tax is necessary. As of and during the year ended October 31, 2023, the Fund did not have a liability for any uncertain tax positions. The Fund recognizes interest and penalties, if any, related to tax liabilities as income tax expense in the Statement of Operations. As of October 31, 2023, tax years 2020 through 2023 remain subject to examination by the Fund's major tax jurisdictions, which include the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

#### When-Issued and Delayed-Delivery Transactions

The Fund may engage in when-issued or delayed-delivery transactions. The Fund records when-issued securities on the trade date and maintains security positions such that sufficient liquid assets will be available to make payment for the securities purchased. Securities purchased on a when-issued or delayed-delivery basis are marked to market daily and begin earning interest on the settlement date. Losses may occur on these transactions due to changes in market conditions or the failure of counterparties to perform under the contract.

#### **Restricted Securities**

The Fund may purchase securities which are considered restricted. Restricted securities are securities that either: (a) cannot be offered for public sale without first being registered, or being able to take advantage of an exemption from registration, under the Securities Act of 1933; or (b) are subject to contractual restrictions on public sales. In some cases, when a security cannot be offered for public sale without first being registered, the issuer of the restricted security has agreed to register such securities for resale, at the issuer's expense, either upon demand by the Fund or in connection with another registered offering of the securities. Many such restricted securities may be resold in the secondary market in transactions exempt from registration. Restricted securities may be determined to be liquid under criteria established by the Trustees. The Fund will not incur any registration costs upon such resales. The Fund's restricted securities, like other securities, are priced in accordance with procedures established by and under the general supervision of the Adviser.

#### Other

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts of assets, liabilities, expenses and revenues reported in the financial statements. Actual results could differ materially from those estimated. The Fund applies investment company accounting and reporting guidance.

#### 3. SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

The following tables summarize share activity:

SHARE TRANSACTIONS

	Period Ended 10/31/2023 <sup>1</sup>			Year Ended 10/31/2022		
Class A Shares:	Shares		Amount	Shares	Am	ount
Shares sold	1,568,267	\$	13,192,829	_	\$	_
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	30,335		256,276	_		_
Shares redeemed	(136,986)		(1,155,560)	_		_
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS A SHARE TRANSACTIONS	1,461,616	\$	12,293,545	_	\$	_
			inded 2023 <sup>1</sup>		Ended 1/2022	
Class C Shares:	Shares		Amount	Shares	Am	ount
Shares sold	112,620	\$	945,728	_	\$	_
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared			6,888	_		_
Shares redeemed	(3,931)		(32,692)	_		_
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS C SHARE TRANSACTIONS	109,517	\$	919,924	_	\$	_
	Year Ended 10/31/2023		Year Ended 10/31/2022			
Institutional Shares:	Shares		Amount	Shares	Am	ount
Shares sold	178,658,378	\$	1,510,275,168	205,061,124	\$ 1,863	,616,520
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	35,370,724		298,683,798	33,584,009	303	,151,113
Shares redeemed	(249,391,947)	(	2,103,122,727)	(321,540,901)	(2,885	,520,119)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM INSTITUTIONAL						

(35,362,845) \$ (294,163,761) (82,895,768) \$ (718,752,486)

Year	Ended
10/3	1/2023

Year Ended 10/31/2022

Class R6 Shares:	Shares		Amount	Shares		Amount
Shares sold	89,163,650	\$	746,157,139	56,323,807	\$	519,258,619
Shares issued to shareholders in payment of distributions declared	12,081,702		102,052,062	9,564,399		86,702,263
Shares redeemed	(64,436,102)		(543,573,127)	(135,505,483)		(1,262,169,871)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM CLASS R6 SHARE TRANSACTIONS	36,809,250	\$	304,636,074	(69,617,277)	\$	(656,208,989)
NET CHANGE RESULTING FROM TOTAL FUND SHARE TRANSACTIONS	3,017,538	¢	23,685,782	(152 513 045)	¢	(1,374,961,475)

<sup>1</sup> Reflects operations for the period from February 9, 2023 (commencement of operations) to October 31, 2023.

#### 4. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION

The tax character of distributions as reported on the Statement of Changes in Net Assets for the years ended October 31, 2023 and 2022, was as follows:

	2023	2022
Ordinary income	\$464,581,542	\$467,961,688

As of October 31, 2023, the components of distributable earnings on a tax-basis were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income	\$	11,699,965
Net unrealized depreciation	\$(1	,174,278,730)
Capital loss carryforwards	\$	(318,847,570)
TOTAL	\$(1	,481,426,335)

At October 31, 2023, the cost of investments for federal tax purposes was \$8,260,655,602. The net unrealized depreciation of investments for federal tax purposes was \$1,174,278,730. This consists of unrealized appreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of value over cost of \$32,505,446 and unrealized depreciation from investments for those securities having an excess of cost over value of \$1,206,784,176.

The difference between book-basis and tax-basis net unrealized depreciation is attributable to differing treatments for defaulted securities, deferral of losses on wash sales and discount accretion/premium amortization on debt securities.

As of October 31, 2023, the Fund had a capital loss carryforward of \$318,847,570 which will reduce the Fund's taxable income arising from future net realized gains on investments, if any, to the extent permitted by the Code, thereby reducing the amount of distributions to shareholders which would otherwise be necessary to relieve the Fund of any liability for federal income tax. Pursuant to the Code, these net capital losses retain their character as either short-term or long-term and do not expire.

The following schedule summarizes the Fund's capital loss carryforwards:

Short-Term	Long-Term	Total
\$4,625,903	\$314,221,667	\$318,847,570

## 5. INVESTMENT ADVISER FEE AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES

#### Investment Adviser Fee

The advisory agreement between the Fund and the Adviser provides for an annual fee equal to 0.40% of the Fund's average daily net assets. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, the Adviser may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee and/or reimburse certain operating expenses of the Fund for competitive reasons such as to maintain the Fund's expense ratio, or as and when appropriate, to maintain positive or zero net yields. For the year ended October 31, 2023, the Adviser voluntarily waived \$1,262,136 of its fee and voluntarily reimbursed \$1,820,972 of transfer agent fees.

The Adviser has agreed to reimburse the Fund for certain investment adviser fees as a result of transactions in other affiliated investment companies. For the year ended October 31, 2023, the Adviser reimbursed \$201,798.

#### Administrative Fee

Federated Administrative Services (FAS), under the Administrative Services Agreement, provides the Fund with administrative personnel and services. For purposes of determining the appropriate rate breakpoint, "Investment Complex" is defined as all of the Federated Hermes Funds subject to a fee under the Administrative Services Agreement. The fee paid to FAS is based on the average daily net assets of the Investment Complex as specified below:

Administrative Fee	Average Daily Net Assets of the Investment Complex
0.100%	on assets up to \$50 billion
0.075%	on assets over \$50 billion

Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FAS may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee. For the year ended October 31, 2023, the annualized fee paid to FAS was 0.078% of average daily net assets of the Fund.

In addition, FAS may charge certain out-of-pocket expenses to the Fund.

#### **Distribution Services Fee**

The Fund has adopted a Distribution Plan (the "Plan") pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the Act. Under the terms of the Plan, the Fund will compensate Federated Securities Corp. (FSC), the principal distributor, from the daily net assets of the Fund's Class C Shares to finance activities intended to result in the sale of these shares. The Plan provides that the Fund may incur distribution expenses at 0.75% of average daily net assets, annually, to compensate FSC. Subject to the terms described in the Expense Limitation note, FSC may voluntarily choose to waive any portion of its fee.

For the year ended October 31, 2023, distribution services fees for the Fund were as follows:

	Distribution Services
	Fees Incurred
Class C Shares	\$1,048

When FSC receives fees, it may pay some or all of them to financial intermediaries whose customers purchase shares. For the year ended October 31, 2023, FSC retained \$729 of fees paid by the Fund.

#### **Sales Charges**

Front-end sales charges and contingent deferred sales charges (CDSC) do not represent expenses of the Fund. They are deducted from the proceeds of sales of Fund shares prior to investment or from redemption proceeds prior to remittance, as applicable. For the year ended October 31, 2023, the Fund did not retain any sales charges or CDSC fees

#### Other Service Fees

For the year ended October 31, 2023, FSSC received \$223 of the other service fees disclosed in Note 2.

#### **Expense Limitation**

The Adviser and certain of its affiliates (which may include FSC, FAS and FSSC) on their own initiative have agreed to waive certain amounts of their respective fees and/or reimburse expenses. Effective January 1, 2024, total annual fund operating expenses (as shown in the financial highlights, excluding interest expense, extraordinary expenses and proxy-related expenses paid by the Fund, if any) paid by the Fund's Class A Shares, Class C Shares, Institutional Shares and Class R6 Shares (after the voluntary waivers and/or reimbursements) will not exceed 0.74%, 1.53%, 0.49% and 0.48% (the "Fee Limit"), respectively, up to but not including the later of (the "Termination Date"):

(a) January 1, 2025; or (b) the date of the Fund's next effective Prospectus. Prior to January 1, 2024 the Fee Limit for the Class C Shares was 1.49%. While the Adviser and its applicable affiliates currently do not anticipate terminating or increasing these arrangements prior to the Termination Date, these arrangements may only be terminated or the Fee Limit increased prior to the Termination Date with the agreement of the Trustees.

#### Directors'/Trustees' and Miscellaneous Fees

Certain Officers and Trustees of the Fund are Officers and Directors or Trustees of certain of the above companies. To efficiently facilitate payment, Independent Directors'/Trustees' fees and certain expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses are paid by an affiliate of the Adviser which in due course are reimbursed by the Fund. These expenses related to conducting meetings of the Directors/Trustees and other miscellaneous expenses may be included in Accrued and Miscellaneous Expenses on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities and Statement of Operations, respectively.

#### 6. INVESTMENT TRANSACTIONS

Purchases and sales of investments, excluding long-term U.S. government securities and short-term obligations, for the year ended October 31, 2023, were as follows:

Purchases	\$1,059,979,702
Sales	\$1,018,183,271

#### 7. LINE OF CREDIT

The Fund participates with certain other Federated Hermes Funds, on a several basis, in an up to \$500,000,000 unsecured, 364-day, committed, revolving line of credit (LOC) agreement dated June 21, 2023. The LOC was made available to temporarily finance the repurchase or redemption of shares of the Fund, failed trades, payment of dividends, settlement of trades and for other short-term, temporary or emergency general business purposes. The Fund cannot borrow under the LOC if an inter-fund loan is outstanding. The Fund's ability to borrow under the LOC also is subject to the limitations of the Act and various conditions precedent that must be satisfied before the Fund can borrow. Loans under the LOC are charged interest at a fluctuating rate per annum equal to (a) the highest, on any day, of (i) the federal funds effective rate, (ii) the published secured overnight financing rate plus an assigned percentage, and (iii) 0.0%, plus (b) a margin. Any fund eligible to borrow under the LOC pays its pro rata share of a commitment fee based on the amount of the lenders' commitment that has not been utilized, quarterly in arrears and at maturity. As of October 31, 2023, the Fund had no outstanding loans. During the year ended October 31, 2023, the Fund did not utilize the LOC.

#### 8. INTERFUND LENDING

Pursuant to an Exemptive Order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Fund, along with other funds advised by subsidiaries of Federated Hermes, Inc., may participate in an interfund lending program. This program provides an alternative credit facility allowing the Fund to borrow from other participating affiliated funds. As of October 31, 2023, there were no outstanding loans. During the year ended October 31, 2023, the program was not utilized.

#### 9. INDEMNIFICATIONS

Under the Fund's organizational documents, its Officers and Directors/Trustees are indemnified against certain liabilities arising out of the performance of their duties to the Fund (other than liabilities arising out of their willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties to the Fund). In addition, in the normal course of business, the Fund provides certain indemnifications under arrangements with third parties. Typically, obligations to indemnify a third party arise in the context of an arrangement entered into by the Fund under which the Fund agrees to indemnify such third party for certain liabilities arising out of actions taken pursuant to the arrangement, provided the third party's actions are not deemed to have breached an agreed-upon standard of care (such as willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties under the contract). The Fund's maximum exposure under

these arrangements is unknown as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet arisen. The Fund does not anticipate any material claims or losses pursuant to these arrangements at this time, and accordingly expects the risk of loss to be remote.

#### 10. OTHER MATTERS

An outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel coronavirus was first detected in China in late 2019 and subsequently spread globally. As of the date of the issuance of these financial statements, this coronavirus has resulted in, and may continue to result in, closed borders, enhanced health screenings, disruptions to healthcare service preparation and delivery, quarantines, cancellations, and disruptions to supply chains, workflow operations and consumer activity, as well as general concern and uncertainty. The impact of this coronavirus has resulted in substantial economic volatility. Health crises caused by outbreaks, such as the coronavirus outbreak, may exacerbate other preexisting political, social and economic risks. The impact of this outbreak, and other epidemics and pandemics that may arise in the future, could continue to negatively affect the worldwide economy, as well as the economies of individual countries, individual companies (including certain Fund service providers and issuers of the Fund's investments) and the markets in general in significant and unforeseen ways. In addition, governments, their regulatory agencies, or self-regulatory organizations may take actions in response to the pandemic, including significant fiscal and monetary policy changes, that may affect the instruments in which the Fund invests or the issuers of such investments. Any such impact could adversely affect the Fund's performance.

#### 11. FEDERAL TAX INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2023, 85.21% of dividends paid by the Fund are interest-related dividends, as provided by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004.

# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF FEDERATED HERMES INSTITUTIONAL TRUST AND SHAREHOLDERS OF FEDERATED HERMES INSTITUTIONAL HIGH YIELD BOND FUND:

#### **Opinion on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of Federated Hermes Institutional High Yield Bond Fund (the "Fund") (one of the portfolios constituting Federated Hermes Institutional Trust (the "Trust")), including the portfolio of investments, as of October 31, 2023, and the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statement of changes in net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended, the financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended and the related notes (collectively referred to as the "financial statements"). In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund (one of the portfolios constituting Federated Hermes Institutional Trust ) at October 31, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the two years in the period then ended and its financial highlights for each of the five years in the period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trust's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Fund's financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Trust in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. The Trust is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting. As part of our audits, we are required to obtain an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion.

Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of October 31, 2023, by correspondence with the custodian, brokers, and others; when replies were not received from brokers or others, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Ernst + Young LLP

We have served as the auditor of one or more Federated Hermes investment companies since 1979.

Boston, Massachusetts December 22, 2023

### Shareholder Expense Example (unaudited)

As a shareholder of the Fund, you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs, including sales charges (loads) on purchase or redemption payments; and (2) ongoing costs, including management fees and to the extent applicable, distribution (12b-1) fees and/or other service fees and other Fund expenses. This Example is intended to help you to understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. It is based on an investment of \$1,000 invested at the beginning of the period and held for the entire period from May 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023.

#### **ACTUAL EXPENSES**

The first section of the table below provides information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in this section, together with the amount you invested, to *estimate* the expenses that you incurred over the period. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an \$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number in the first section under the heading entitled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses attributable to your investment during this period.

#### HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLE FOR COMPARISON PURPOSES

The second section of the table below provides information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund's actual expense ratio and an *assumed* rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Fund's actual return. Thus, you should *not* use the hypothetical account values and expenses to estimate the actual ending account balance or your expenses for the period. Rather, these figures are required to be provided to enable you to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund with other funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transaction costs, such as sales charges (loads) on purchase or redemption payments. Therefore, the second section of the table is useful in comparing ongoing costs only, and will not help you determine the relative *total* costs of owning different funds.

	Beginning Account Value 5/1/2023	Ending Account Value 10/31/2023	Expenses Paid During Period
Actual:			_
Class A Shares	\$1,000	\$ 996.70	\$3.72
Class C Shares	\$1,000	\$ 991.70	\$7.48
Institutional Shares	\$1,000	\$ 997.90	\$2.47
Class R6 Shares	\$1,000	\$ 996.80	\$2.42
Hypothetical (assuming a 5% return before expenses):			
Class A Shares	\$1,000	\$1,021.48	\$3.77
Class C Shares	\$1,000	\$1,017.69	\$7.58
Institutional Shares	\$1,000	\$1,022.74	\$2.50
Class R6 Shares	\$1,000	\$1,022.79	\$2.45
Institutional Shares	\$1,000	\$1,022.74	\$2.50

1 Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized net expense ratios, multiplied by the average account value over the period, multiplied by 184/365 (to reflect the one-half-year period). The annualized net expense ratios are as follows:

Class A Shares	0.74%
Class C Shares	1.49%
Institutional Shares	0.49%
Class R6 Shares	0.48%

#### **Board of Trustees and Trust Officers**

The Board of Trustees is responsible for managing the Trust's business affairs and for exercising all the Trust's powers except those reserved for the shareholders. The following tables give information about each Trustee and the senior officers of the Fund. Where required, the tables separately list Trustees who are "interested persons" of the Fund (i.e., "Interested" Trustees) and those who are not (i.e., "Independent" Trustees). Unless otherwise noted, the address of each person listed is 1001 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222-3779. The address of all Independent Trustees listed is 4000 Ericsson Drive, Warrendale, PA 15086-7561; Attention: Mutual Fund Board. As of December 31, 2022, the Trust comprised three portfolio(s), and the Federated Hermes Fund Family consisted of 33 investment companies (comprising 102 portfolios). Unless otherwise noted, each Officer is elected annually. Unless otherwise noted, each Trustee oversees all portfolios in the Federated Hermes Fund Family and serves for an indefinite term. The Fund's Statement of Additional Information includes additional information about Trust Trustees and is available, without charge and upon request, by calling 1-800-341-7400, Option #4.

#### INTERESTED TRUSTEES BACKGROUND

Name
Birth Date
Positions Held with Trust
Date Service Began

Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held and Previous Position(s)

J. Christopher Donahue\*
Birth Date: April 11, 1949
PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE
Indefinite Term
Began serving: April 1999

Principal Occupations: Principal Executive Officer and President of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director or Trustee of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; President, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Chairman and Trustee, Federated Investment Management Company; Trustee, Federated Investment Counseling; Chairman and Director, Federated Global Investment Management Corp.; Chairman and Trustee, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania; Trustee, Federated Shareholder Services Company; Director, Federated Services Company.

Previous Positions: President, Federated Investment Counseling; President and Chief Executive Officer, Federated Investment Management Company, Federated Global Investment Management Corp. and Passport Research, Ltd; Chairman, Passport Research, Ltd.

Name
Birth Date
Positions Held with Trust
Date Service Began

#### Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held and Previous Position(s)

John B. Fisher\*
Birth Date: May 16, 1956
TRUSTEE
Indefinite Term
Began serving: May 2016

Principal Occupations: Principal Executive Officer and President of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director or Trustee of certain of the Funds in the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Director and Vice President, Federated Hermes, Inc.; President, Director/Trustee and CEO, Federated Advisory Services Company, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania, Federated Global Investment Management Corp., Federated Investment Counseling, Federated Investment Management Company, and Federated MDTA LLC; Director, Federated Investors Trust Company.

**Previous Positions**: President and Director of the Institutional Sales Division of Federated Securities Corp.; President and CEO of Passport Research, Ltd.; Director and President, Technology, Federated Services Company.

\* Reasons for "interested" status: J. Christopher Donahue and John B. Fisher are interested due to their beneficial ownership of shares of Federated Hermes, Inc. and due to positions they hold with Federated Hermes. Inc. and its subsidiaries.

#### INDEPENDENT TRUSTEES BACKGROUND

#### Name Birth Date Positions Held with Trust Date Service Began

Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications

John T. Collins
Birth Date: January 24, 1947
TRUSTEE
Indefinite Term
Began serving: October 2013

**Principal Occupations**: Director or Trustee, and Chair of the Board of Directors or Trustees, of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Chairman and CEO, The Collins Group, Inc. (a private equity firm) (Retired).

**Other Directorships Held**: Director, KLX Energy Services Holdings, Inc. (oilfield services); former Director of KLX Corp. (aerospace).

Qualifications: Mr. Collins has served in several business and financial management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Collins previously served as Chairman and CEO of The Collins Group, Inc. (a private equity firm) and as a Director of KLX Corp. Mr. Collins serves as Chairman Emeriti, Bentley University. Mr. Collins previously served as Director and Audit Committee Member, Bank of America Corp.; Director, FleetBoston Financial Corp.; and Director, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (Harvard University Affiliate Hospital).

#### Name Birth Date Positions Held with Trust Date Service Began

#### Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications

# **G. Thomas Hough**Birth Date: February 28, 1955 TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: August 2015

**Principal Occupations**: Director or Trustee, Chair of the Audit Committee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Vice Chair, Ernst & Young LLP (public accounting firm) (Retired).

Other Directorships Held: Director, Chair of the Audit Committee, Equifax, Inc.; Lead Director, Member of the Audit and Nominating and Corporate Governance Committees, Haverty Furniture Companies, Inc.; formerly, Director, Member of Governance and Compensation Committees, Publix Super Markets, Inc.

Qualifications: Mr. Hough has served in accounting, business management and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Hough most recently held the position of Americas Vice Chair of Assurance with Ernst & Young LLP (public accounting firm). Mr. Hough serves on the President's Cabinet and Business School Board of Visitors for the University of Alabama. Mr. Hough previously served on the Business School Board of Visitors for Wake Forest University, and he previously served as an Executive Committee member of the United States Golf Association.

#### Maureen Lally-Green Birth Date: July 5, 1949 TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: August 2009

**Principal Occupations**: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family, Adjunct Professor Emerita of Law, Duquesne University School of Law; formerly, Dean of the Duquesne University School of Law and Professor of Law and Interim Dean of the Duquesne University School of Law; formerly, Associate General Secretary and Director, Office of Church Relations, Diocese of Pittsburgh.

**Other Directorships Held**: Director, CNX Resources Corporation (natural gas).

Qualifications: Judge Lally-Green has served in various legal and business roles and directorship positions throughout her career. Judge Lally-Green previously held the position of Dean of the School of Law of Duquesne University (as well as Interim Dean). Judge Lally-Green previously served as Associate General Secretary of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, a member of the Superior Court of Pennsylvania and as a Professor of Law, Duquesne University School of Law. Judge Lally-Green was appointed by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania to serve on the Supreme Court's Board of Continuing Judicial Education and the Supreme Court's Appellate Court Procedural Rules Committee. Judge Lally-Green also currently holds the positions on not for profit or for profit boards of directors as follows: Director and Chair, UPMC Mercy Hospital; Regent, Saint Vincent Seminary; Member, Pennsylvania State Board of Education (public); Director, Catholic Charities, Pittsburgh; and Director CNX Resources Corporation (natural gas). Judge Lally-Green has held the positions of: Director, Auberle; Director, Epilepsy Foundation of Western and Central Pennsylvania; Director, Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh; Director, Saint Thomas More Society; Director and Chair, Catholic High Schools of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Inc.; Director, Pennsylvania Bar Institute; Director, St. Vincent College; Director and Chair, North Catholic High School, Inc.; Director and Vice Chair, Our Campaign for the Church Alive!, Inc.; and Director and Vice Chair, Saint Francis University.

Name
Birth Date
<b>Positions Held with Trust</b>
Date Service Began

#### Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications

#### Thomas M. O'Neill Birth Date: June 14, 1951 TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: August 2006

**Principal Occupations**: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Sole Proprietor, Navigator Management Company (investment and strategic consulting).

Other Directorships Held: None.

Qualifications: Mr. O'Neill has served in several business, mutual fund and financial management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. O'Neill serves as Director, Medicines for Humanity. Mr. O'Neill previously served as Chief Executive Officer and President, Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer, Fleet Investment Advisors; President and Chief Executive Officer, Aeltus Investment Management, Inc.; General Partner, Hellman, Jordan Management Co., Boston, MA; Chief Investment Officer, The Putnam Companies, Boston, MA; Credit Analyst and Lending Officer, Fleet Bank; Director and Consultant, EZE Castle Software (investment order management software); Director, Midway Pacific (lumber); and Director, The Golisano Children's Museum of Naples, Florida.

#### Madelyn A. Reilly Birth Date: February 2, 1956 TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: November 2020

**Principal Occupations**: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; formerly, Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of Board of Directors, Duquesne University (Retired).

Other Directorships Held: None.

Qualifications: Ms. Reilly has served in various business and legal management roles throughout her career. Ms. Reilly previously served as Senior Vice President for Legal Affairs, General Counsel and Secretary of Board of Directors and Director of Risk Management and Associate General Counsel, Duquesne University. Prior to her work at Duquesne University, Ms. Reilly served as Assistant General Counsel of Compliance and Enterprise Risk as well as Senior Counsel of Environment, Health and Safety, PPG Industries. Ms. Reilly currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors of UPMC Mercy Hospital.

Name
Birth Date
<b>Positions Held with Trust</b>
Date Service Began

#### Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years, Other Directorships Held, Previous Position(s) and Qualifications

#### P. Jerome Richey Birth Date: February 23, 1949 TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: October 2013

**Principal Occupations**: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Retired; formerly, Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer, University of Pittsburgh and Executive Vice President and Chief Legal Officer, CONSOL Energy Inc. (now split into two separate publicly traded companies known as CONSOL Energy Inc. and CNX Resources Corp.).

#### Other Directorships Held: None.

Qualifications: Mr. Richey has served in several business and legal management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Richey most recently held the positions of Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer, University of Pittsburgh. Mr. Richey previously served as Chairman of the Board, Epilepsy Foundation of Western Pennsylvania and Chairman of the Board, World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh. Mr. Richey previously served as Chief Legal Officer and Executive Vice President, CONSOL Energy Inc. and CNX Gas Company; and Board Member, Ethics Counsel and Shareholder, Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC (a law firm).

#### John S. Walsh Birth Date: November 28, 1957 TRUSTEE Indefinite Term Began serving: April 1999

**Principal Occupations**: Director or Trustee of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; President and Director, Heat Wagon, Inc. (manufacturer of construction temporary heaters); President and Director, Manufacturers Products, Inc. (distributor of portable construction heaters); President, Portable Heater Parts, a division of Manufacturers Products. Inc.

#### Other Directorships Held: None.

**Qualifications**: Mr. Walsh has served in several business management roles and directorship positions throughout his career. Mr. Walsh previously served as Vice President, Walsh & Kelly, Inc. (paving contractors).

#### **OFFICERS**

Name
Birth Date
<b>Positions Held with Trust</b>
Date Service Began

# Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years and Previous Position(s)

#### **Lori A. Hensler** Birth Date: January 6, 1967 TREASURER Officer since: April 2013

Principal Occupations: Principal Financial Officer and Treasurer of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Senior Vice President, Federated Administrative Services; Financial and Operations Principal for Federated Securities Corp.; and Assistant Treasurer, Federated Investors Trust Company. Ms. Hensler has received the Certified Public Accountant designation.

Previous Positions: Controller of Federated Hermes, Inc.; Senior Vice President and Assistant Treasurer, Federated Investors Management Company; Treasurer, Federated Investors Trust Company; Assistant Treasurer, Federated Administrative Services, Federated Administrative Services, Federated Administrative Services, Inc., Federated Securities Corp., Edgewood Services, Inc., Federated Advisory Services Company, Federated Equity Management Company of Pennsylvania, Federated Global Investment Management Corp., Federated Investment Counseling, Federated Investment Management Company, Passport Research, Ltd., and Federated MDTA, LLC; Financial and Operations Principal for Federated Securities Corp., Edgewood Services, Inc. and Southpointe Distribution Services, Inc.

#### Peter J. Germain

Birth Date:
September 3, 1959
CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER,
SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE
VICE PRESIDENT
Officer since: January 2005

Principal Occupations: Mr. Germain is Chief Legal Officer, Secretary and Executive Vice President of the Federated Hermes Fund Family. He is General Counsel, Chief Legal Officer, Secretary and Executive Vice President, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Trustee and Senior Vice President, Federated Investors Management Company; Trustee and President, Federated Administrative Services; Director and President, Federated Administrative Services, Inc.; Director and Vice President, Federated Administrative Services, Inc.; Director and Vice President, Federated Securities Corp.; Director and Secretary, Federated Private Asset Management, Inc.; Secretary, Federated Shareholder Services Company; and Secretary, Retirement Plan Service Company of America. Mr. Germain joined Federated Hermes, Inc. in 1984 and is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association.

**Previous Positions**: Deputy General Counsel, Special Counsel, Managing Director of Mutual Fund Services, Federated Hermes, Inc.; Senior Vice President, Federated Services Company; and Senior Corporate Counsel, Federated Hermes, Inc.

#### Stephen Van Meter Birth Date: June 5, 1975 CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT Officer since: July 2015

**Principal Occupations**: Senior Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of the Federated Hermes Fund Family; Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer of Federated Hermes, Inc. and Chief Compliance Officer of certain of its subsidiaries. Mr. Van Meter joined Federated Hermes, Inc. in October 2011. He holds FINRA licenses under Series 3, 7, 24 and 66.

Previous Positions: Mr. Van Meter previously held the position of Compliance Operating Officer, Federated Hermes, Inc. Prior to joining Federated Hermes, Inc., Mr. Van Meter served at the United States Securities and Exchange Commission in the positions of Senior Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, Division of Investment Management and Senior Counsel, Division of Enforcement.

Name Birth Date Positions Held with Trust Date Service Began	Principal Occupation(s) for Past Five Years and Previous Position(s)
Robert J. Ostrowski Birth Date: April 26, 1963 CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER Officer since: May 2004	Principal Occupations: Robert J. Ostrowski joined Federated Hermes, Inc. in 1987 as an Investment Analyst and became a Portfolio Manager in 1990. He was named Chief Investment Officer of Federated Hermes' taxable fixed-income products in 2004 and also serves as a Senior Portfolio Manager. Mr. Ostrowski became an Executive Vice President of the Fund's Adviser in 2009 and served as a Senior Vice President of the Fund's Adviser from 1997 to 2009. Mr. Ostrowski has received the Chartered Financial Analyst designation. He received his M.S. in Industrial Administration from Carnegie Mellon University.

# Evaluation and Approval of Advisory Contract – May 2023

# FEDERATED HERMES INSTITUTIONAL HIGH YIELD BOND FUND (THE "FUND")

At its meetings in May 2023 (the "May Meetings"), the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Board"), including those Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the Fund, as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Independent Trustees"), reviewed and unanimously approved the continuation of the investment advisory contract between the Fund and Federated Investment Management Company (the "Adviser") (the "Contract") for an additional one-year term. The Board's determination to approve the continuation of the Contract reflects the exercise of its business judgment after considering all of the information and factors believed to be relevant and appropriate on whether to approve the continuation of the existing arrangement. The information, factors and conclusions that formed the basis for the Board's approval are summarized below.

#### **Information Received and Review Process**

At the request of the Independent Trustees, the Fund's Chief Compliance Officer (the "CCO") furnished to the Board in advance of its May Meetings an independent written evaluation of the Fund's management fee (the "CCO Fee Evaluation Report"). The Board considered the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, along with other information, in evaluating the reasonableness of the Fund's management fee and in determining to approve the continuation of the Contract. The CCO, in preparing the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, has the authority to retain consultants, experts or staff as reasonably necessary to assist in the performance of his duties, reports directly to the Board, and can be terminated only with the approval of a majority of the Independent Trustees. At the request of the Independent Trustees, the CCO Fee Evaluation Report followed the same general approach and covered the same topics as that of the report that had previously been delivered by the CCO in his capacity as "Senior Officer" prior to the elimination of the Senior Officer position in December 2017.

In addition to the extensive materials that comprise and accompany the CCO Fee Evaluation Report, the Board considered information specifically prepared in connection with the approval of the continuation of the Contract that was presented at the May Meetings. In this regard, in the months preceding the May Meetings, the Board requested and reviewed written responses and supporting materials prepared by the Adviser and its affiliates (collectively, "Federated Hermes") in response to requests posed to Federated Hermes by independent legal counsel on behalf of the Independent Trustees encompassing a wide variety of topics, including those summarized below. The Board also considered such additional matters as the Independent Trustees deemed

reasonably necessary to evaluate the Contract, which included detailed information about the Fund and Federated Hermes furnished to the Board at its meetings throughout the year and in between regularly scheduled meetings on particular matters as the need arose.

The Board's consideration of the Contract included review of materials and information covering the following matters, among others: the nature, quality and extent of the advisory and other services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes; Federated Hermes' business and operations; the Adviser's investment philosophy, personnel and processes; the Fund's investment objectives and strategies; the Fund's short-term and long-term performance (in absolute terms, both on a gross basis and net of expenses, and relative to the Fund's particular investment program and a group of its peer funds and/or its benchmark, as appropriate); the Fund's fees and expenses, including the advisory fee and the overall expense structure of the Fund (both in absolute terms and relative to a group of its peer funds), with due regard for contractual or voluntary expense limitations (if any); the financial condition of Federated Hermes; the Adviser's profitability with respect to managing the Fund; distribution and sales activity for the Fund; and the use and allocation of brokerage commissions derived from trading the Fund's portfolio securities (if anv).

The Board also considered judicial decisions concerning allegedly excessive investment advisory fees charged to other registered funds in evaluating the Contract. Using these judicial decisions as a guide, the Board observed that the following factors may be relevant to an adviser's fiduciary duty with respect to its receipt of compensation from a fund: (1) the nature and quality of the services provided by the adviser to the fund and its shareholders, including the performance of the fund, its benchmark and comparable funds; (2) the adviser's cost of providing the services and the profitability to the adviser of providing advisory services to the fund; (3) the extent to which the adviser may realize "economies of scale" as the fund grows larger and, if such economies of scale exist, whether they have been appropriately shared with the fund and its shareholders or the family of funds; (4) any "fall-out" benefits that accrue to the adviser because of its relationship with the fund, including research services received from brokers that execute fund trades and any fees paid to affiliates of the adviser for services rendered to the fund; (5) comparative fee and expense structures, including a comparison of management fees paid to the adviser with those paid by similar funds managed by the same adviser or other advisers as well as management fees charged to institutional and other advisory clients of the same adviser for what might be viewed as like services; and (6) the extent of care, conscientiousness and independence with which the fund's board members perform their duties and their expertise, including whether they are fully informed about all facts the board deems relevant to its consideration of the adviser's services and fees. The Board noted that the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") disclosure requirements

regarding the basis for a fund board's approval of the fund's investment advisory contract generally align with the factors listed above. The Board was guided by these factors in its evaluation of the Contract to the extent it considered them to be appropriate and relevant, as discussed further below. The Board considered and weighed these factors in light of its substantial accumulated experience in governing the Fund and working with Federated Hermes on matters relating to the oversight of the other funds advised by Federated Hermes (each, a "Federated Hermes Fund" and, collectively, the "Federated Hermes Funds").

In addition, the Board considered the preferences and expectations of Fund shareholders and the potential disruptions of the Fund's operations and various risks, uncertainties and other effects that could occur as a result of a decision to terminate or not renew the Contract. In particular, the Board recognized that many shareholders likely have invested in the Fund based on the strength of Federated Hermes' industry standing and reputation and with the expectation that Federated Hermes will have a continuing role in providing advisory services to the Fund. Thus, the Board observed that there are a range of investment options available to the Fund's shareholders and such shareholders in the marketplace, having had the opportunity to consider other investment options, have effectively selected Federated Hermes by virtue of investing in the Fund.

In determining to approve the continuation of the Contract, the members of the Board reviewed and evaluated information and factors they believed to be relevant and appropriate through the exercise of their reasonable business judgment. While individual members of the Board may have weighed certain factors differently, the Board's determination to approve the continuation of the Contract was based on a comprehensive consideration of all information provided to the Board throughout the year and specifically with respect to the continuation of the Contract. The Board recognized that its evaluation process is evolutionary and that the factors considered and emphasis placed on relevant factors may change in recognition of changing circumstances in the registered fund marketplace. The Independent Trustees were assisted throughout the evaluation process by independent legal counsel. In connection with their deliberations at the May Meetings, the Independent Trustees met separately in executive session with their independent legal counsel and without management present to review the relevant materials and consider their responsibilities under applicable laws. In addition, senior management representatives of Federated Hermes also met with the Independent Trustees and their independent legal counsel to discuss the materials and presentations furnished to the Board at the May Meetings. The Board considered the approval of the Contract for the Fund as part of its consideration of agreements for funds across the family of Federated Hermes Funds, but its approvals were made on a fund-by-fund basis.

#### Nature, Extent and Quality of Services

The Board considered the nature, extent and quality of the services provided to the Fund by the Adviser and the resources of Federated Hermes dedicated to the Fund. In this regard, the Board evaluated, among other things, the terms of the Contract and the range of services provided to the Fund by Federated Hermes. The Board considered the Adviser's personnel, investment philosophy and process, investment research capabilities and resources, trade operations capabilities, experience and performance track record. The Board reviewed the qualifications, backgrounds and responsibilities of the portfolio management team primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund and Federated Hermes' ability and experience in attracting and retaining qualified personnel to service the Fund. The Board considered the trading operations by the Advisers, including the execution of portfolio transactions and the selection of brokers for those transactions. The Board also considered the Adviser's ability to deliver competitive investment performance for the Fund when compared to the Fund's Performance Peer Group (as defined below), which was deemed by the Board to be a useful indicator of how the Adviser is executing the Fund's investment program.

In addition, the Board considered the financial resources and overall reputation of Federated Hermes and its willingness to consider and make investments in personnel, infrastructure, technology, cybersecurity, business continuity planning and operational enhancements that are designed to benefit the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board noted that the significant acquisition of Hermes Fund Managers Limited by Federated Hermes has deepened Federated Hermes' investment management expertise and capabilities and its access to analytical resources related to environmental, social and governance ("ESG") factors and issuer engagement on ESG matters. The Board considered Federated Hermes' oversight of the securities lending program for the Federated Hermes Funds that engage in securities lending and noted the income earned by the Federated Hermes Funds that participate in such program. In addition, the Board considered the quality of Federated Hermes' communications with the Board and responsiveness to Board inquiries and requests made from time to time with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes is responsible for providing the Federated Hermes Funds' officers.

The Board received and evaluated information regarding Federated Hermes' regulatory and compliance environment. The Board considered Federated Hermes' compliance program and compliance history and reports from the CCO about Federated Hermes' compliance with applicable laws and regulations, including responses to regulatory developments and any compliance or other issues raised by regulatory agencies. The Board also noted Federated Hermes' support of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance control structure and the compliance-related resources devoted by Federated Hermes in support of the Fund's obligations pursuant to Rule 38a-1 under the

Investment Company Act of 1940, including Federated Hermes' commitment to respond to rulemaking and other regulatory initiatives of the SEC. The Board considered Federated Hermes' approach to internal audits and risk management with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds and its day-to-day oversight of the Federated Hermes Funds' compliance with their investment objectives and policies as well as with applicable laws and regulations, noting that regulatory and other developments had over time led, and continue to lead, to an increase in the scope of Federated Hermes' oversight in this regard, including in connection with the implementation of new rules on derivatives risk management and fair valuation.

The Board also considered the implementation of Federated Hermes' business continuity plans. In addition, the Board noted Federated Hermes' commitment to maintaining high quality systems and expending substantial resources to prepare for and respond to ongoing changes due to the market, regulatory and control environments in which the Fund and its service providers operate.

The Board considered Federated Hermes' efforts to provide shareholders in the Federated Hermes Funds with a comprehensive array of funds with different investment objectives, policies and strategies. The Board considered the expenses that Federated Hermes had incurred, as well as the entrepreneurial and other risks assumed by Federated Hermes, in sponsoring and providing ongoing services to new funds to expand these opportunities for shareholders. The Board noted the benefits to shareholders of being part of the family of Federated Hermes Funds, which include the general right to exchange investments between the same class of shares without the incurrence of additional sales charges.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it was satisfied with the nature, extent and quality of the services provided by the Adviser to the Fund.

#### **Fund Investment Performance**

The Board considered the investment performance of the Fund. In evaluating the Fund's investment performance, the Board considered performance results in light of the Fund's investment objective, strategies and risks. The Board considered detailed investment reports on, and the Adviser's analysis of, the Fund's performance over different time periods that were provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. These reports included, among other items, information on the Fund's gross and net returns, the Fund's investment performance compared to one or more relevant categories or groups of peer funds and the Fund's benchmark index, performance attribution information and commentary on the effect of market conditions. The Board considered that, in its evaluation of investment performance at meetings throughout the year, it focused particular attention on information indicating less favorable performance of certain

Federated Hermes Funds for specific time periods and discussed with Federated Hermes the reasons for such performance as well as any specific actions Federated Hermes had taken, or had agreed to take, to seek to enhance Fund investment performance and the results of those actions.

The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the performance of other registered funds in the category of peer funds selected by Morningstar, Inc. (the "Morningstar"), an independent fund ranking organization (the "Performance Peer Group"). The Board noted the CCO's view that comparisons to fund peer groups may be helpful, though not conclusive, in evaluating the performance of the Adviser in managing the Fund. The Board considered in the CCO's view that, in evaluating such comparisons, in some cases there may be differences in the funds' objectives or investment management techniques, or the costs to implement the funds, even within the same Performance Peer Group.

For the periods ended December 31, 2022, the Fund's performance fell below the Performance Peer Group median for the one-year and three-year periods, and was above the Performance Peer Group median for the five-year period. The Board discussed the Fund's performance with the Adviser and recognized the efforts being taken by the Adviser in the context of other factors considered relevant by the Board.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that it had continued confidence in the Adviser's overall capabilities to manage the Fund.

#### **Fund Expenses**

The Board considered the advisory fee and overall expense structure of the Fund and the comparative fee and expense information that had been provided in connection with the May Meetings. In this regard, the Board was presented with, and considered, information regarding the contractual advisory fee rates, net advisory fee rates, total expense ratios and each element of the Fund's total expense ratio (i.e., gross and net advisory fees, administrative fees, custody fees, portfolio accounting fees and transfer agency fees) relative to an appropriate group of peer funds compiled by Federated Hermes from the category of peer funds selected by Morningstar (the "Expense Peer Group"). The Board received a description of the methodology used to select the Expense Peer Group from the overall Morningstar category. The Board also reviewed comparative information regarding the fees and expenses of the broader group of funds in the overall Morningstar category.

While mindful that courts have cautioned against giving too much weight to comparative information concerning fees charged to funds by other advisers, the use of comparisons between the Fund and its Expense Peer Group assisted the Board in its evaluation of the Fund's fees and expenses. The Board focused on comparisons with other registered funds with comparable investment programs more heavily than non-registered fund products or services because such comparisons are believed to be more relevant. The Board considered that

other registered funds are the products most like the Fund, in that they are readily available to Fund shareholders as alternative investment vehicles, and they are the type of investment vehicle, in fact, chosen and maintained by the Fund's shareholders. The Board noted that the range of such other registered funds' fees and expenses, therefore, appears to be a relevant indicator of what investors have found to be reasonable in the marketplace in which the Fund competes.

The Board reviewed the contractual advisory fee rate, net advisory fee rate and other expenses of the Fund and noted the position of the Fund's fee rates relative to its Expense Peer Group. In this regard, the Board noted that the contractual advisory fee rate was below the median of the Expense Peer Group, and the Board was satisfied that the overall expense structure of the Fund remained competitive.

The Board also received and considered information about the nature and extent of services offered and fees charged by Federated Hermes to other types of clients with investment strategies similar to those of the Federated Hermes Funds, including non-registered fund clients (such as institutional separate accounts) and third-party unaffiliated registered funds for which the Adviser or its affiliates serve as sub-adviser. The Board noted the CCO's conclusion that non-registered fund clients are inherently different products due to the following differences, among others: (i) different types of targeted investors; (ii) different applicable laws and regulations; (iii) different legal structures; (iv) different average account sizes and portfolio management techniques made necessary by different cash flows and different associated costs; (v) the time spent by portfolio managers and their teams (among other personnel across various departments, including legal, compliance and risk management) in reviewing securities pricing and fund liquidity; (vi) different administrative responsibilities; (vii) different degrees of risk associated with management; and (viii) a variety of different costs. The Board also considered information regarding the differences in the nature of the services required for Federated Hermes to manage its proprietary registered fund business versus managing a discrete pool of assets as a sub-adviser to another institution's registered fund, noting the CCO's view that Federated Hermes generally performs significant additional services and assumes substantially greater risks in managing the Fund and other Federated Hermes Funds than in its role as sub-adviser to an unaffiliated third-party registered fund. The Board noted that the CCO did not consider the fees for providing advisory services to other types of clients to be determinative in judging the appropriateness of the Federated Hermes Funds' advisory fees.

Based on these considerations, the Board concluded that the fees and total operating expenses of the Fund, in conjunction with other matters considered, are reasonable in light of the services provided.

#### **Profitability**

The Board received and considered profitability information furnished by Federated Hermes, as requested by the CCO. Such profitability information included revenues reported on a fund-by-fund basis and estimates of the allocation of expenses made on a fund-by-fund basis, using allocation methodologies specified by the CCO and described to the Board. The Board considered the CCO's view that, while these cost allocation reports apply consistent allocation processes, the inherent difficulties in allocating costs on a fund-by-fund basis continues to cause the CCO to question the precision of the process and to conclude that such reports may be unreliable because a single change in an allocation estimate may dramatically alter the resulting estimate of cost and/or profitability of a Federated Hermes Fund and may produce unintended consequences. In addition, the Board considered the CCO's view that the allocation methodologies used by Federated Hermes in estimating profitability for purposes of reporting to the Board in connection with the continuation of the Contract are consistent with the methodologies previously reviewed by an independent consultant. The Board noted that the independent consultant had previously conducted a review of the allocation methodologies and reported to the Board that, although there is no single best method to allocate expenses, the methodologies used by Federated Hermes are reasonable. The Board considered the CCO's view that the estimated profitability to the Adviser from its relationship with the Fund was not unreasonable in relation to the services provided.

The Board also reviewed information compiled by Federated Hermes comparing its profitability information to other publicly held fund management companies, including information regarding profitability trends over time. The Board recognized that profitability comparisons among fund management companies are difficult because of the variation in the type of comparative information that is publicly available, and the profitability of any fund management company is affected by numerous factors. The Board considered the CCO's conclusion that, based on such profitability information, Federated Hermes' profit margins did not appear to be excessive. The Board also considered the CCO's view that Federated Hermes appeared financially sound, with the resources necessary to fulfill its obligations under its contracts with the Federated Hermes Funds.

#### **Economies of Scale**

The Board received and considered information about the notion of possible realization of "economies of scale" as a fund grows larger, the difficulties of determining economies of scale at an individual fund level, and the extent to which potential scale benefits are shared with shareholders. In this regard, the Board considered that Federated Hermes has made significant and long-term investments in areas that support all of the Federated Hermes Funds, such as: portfolio management, investment research and trading operations; shareholder services; compliance; business continuity, cybersecurity and information

security programs; internal audit and risk management functions; and technology and use of data. The Board noted that Federated Hermes' investments in these areas are extensive and are designed to provide enhanced services to the Federated Hermes Funds and their shareholders. The Board considered that the benefits of these investments are likely to be shared with the family of Federated Hermes Funds as a whole. In addition, the Board considered that fee waivers and expense reimbursements are another means for potential economies of scale to be shared with shareholders and can provide protection from an increase in expenses if a Federated Hermes Fund's assets decline. The Board considered that, in order for the Federated Hermes Funds to remain competitive in the marketplace, Federated Hermes has frequently waived fees and/or reimbursed expenses for the Federated Hermes Funds and has disclosed to shareholders and/or reported to the Board its intention to do so (or continue to do so) in the future. The Board also considered that Federated Hermes has been active in managing expenses of the Federated Hermes Funds in recent years, which has resulted in benefits being realized by shareholders.

The Board also received and considered information on adviser-paid fees (commonly referred to as "revenue sharing" payments) that was provided to the Board throughout the year and in connection with the May Meetings. The Board considered that Federated Hermes and the CCO believe that this information is relevant to considering whether Federated Hermes had an incentive to either not apply breakpoints, or to apply breakpoints at higher levels, but should not be considered when evaluating the reasonableness of advisory fees. The Board also noted the absence of any applicable regulatory or industry guidelines economies of scale, which is compounded by the lack of any uniform methodology or pattern with respect to structuring fund advisory fees with breakpoints that serve to reduce the fees as a fund attains a certain size.

#### **Other Benefits**

The Board considered information regarding the compensation and other ancillary (or "fall-out") benefits that Federated Hermes derived from its relationships with the Federated Hermes Funds. The Board noted that, in addition to receiving advisory fees under the Federated Hermes Funds' investment advisory contracts, Federated Hermes' affiliates also receive fees for providing other services to the Federated Hermes Funds under separate service contracts including for serving as the Federated Hermes Funds' administrator and distributor. In this regard, the Board considered that certain of Federated Hermes' affiliates provide distribution and shareholder services to the Federated Hermes Funds, for which they may be compensated through distribution and servicing fees paid pursuant to Rule 12b-1 plans or otherwise. The Board also received and considered information detailing the benefits, if any, that Federated Hermes may derive from its receipt of research services from brokers who execute portfolio trades for the Federated Hermes Funds.

#### **Conclusions**

The Board considered: (i) the CCO's conclusion that his observations and the information accompanying the CCO Fee Evaluation Report show that the management fee for the Fund is reasonable; and (ii) the CCO's recommendation that the Board approve the management fee. The Board noted that, under these circumstances, no changes were recommended to, and no objection was raised to the continuation of, the Contract by the CCO. The CCO also recognized that the Board's evaluation of the Federated Hermes Funds' advisory and sub-advisory arrangements is a continuing and ongoing process that is informed by the information that the Board requests and receives from management throughout the course of the year and, in this regard, the CCO noted certain items for future reporting to the Board or further consideration by management as the Board continues its ongoing oversight of the Federated Hermes Funds.

On the basis of the information and factors summarized above, among other information and factors deemed relevant by the Board, and the evaluation thereof, the Board, including the Independent Trustees, unanimously voted to approve the continuation of the Contract. The Board based its determination to approve the Contract on the totality of the circumstances and relevant factors and with a view of past and future long-term considerations. Not all of the factors and considerations identified above were necessarily deemed to be relevant to the Fund, nor did the Board consider any one of them to be determinative.

# Liquidity Risk Management Program – Annual Evaluation of Adequacy and Effectiveness

In accordance with Rule 22e-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "Liquidity Rule"), Federated Hermes Institutional Trust (the "Trust") has adopted and implemented a liquidity risk management program (the "Program") for Federated Hermes Institutional High Yield Bond Fund (the "Fund" and, collectively with the other non-money market open-end funds advised by Federated Hermes, the "Federated Hermes Funds"). The Program seeks to assess and manage the Fund's liquidity risk. "Liquidity risk" is defined under the Liquidity Rule as the risk that the Fund is unable to meet redemption requests without significantly diluting remaining investors' interests in the Fund. The Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board") has approved the designation of each Federated Hermes Fund's investment adviser as the administrator for the Program (the "Administrator") with respect to that Fund. The Administrator, in turn, has delegated day-to-day responsibility for the administration of the Program to multiple Liquidity Risk Management Committees, which are comprised of representatives from certain divisions within Federated Hermes.

The Program is comprised of various components designed to support the assessment and/or management of liquidity risk, including: (1) the periodic assessment (no less frequently than annually) of certain factors that influence the Fund's liquidity risk; (2) the periodic classification (no less frequently than monthly) of the Fund's investments into one of four liquidity categories that reflect an estimate of their liquidity under current market conditions; (3) a 15% limit on the acquisition of "illiquid investments" (as defined under the Liquidity Rule); (4) to the extent a Fund does not invest primarily in "highly liquid investments" (as defined under the Liquidity Rule), the determination of a minimum percentage of the Fund's assets that generally will be invested in highly liquid investments (an "HLIM"); (5) if a Fund has established an HLIM, the periodic review (no less frequently than annually) of the HLIM and the adoption of policies and procedures for responding to a shortfall of the Fund's highly liquid investments below its HLIM; and (6) periodic reporting to the Board.

At its meetings in May 2023, the Board received and reviewed a written report (the "Report") from the Federated Hermes Funds' Chief Compliance Officer and Chief Risk Officer, on behalf of the Administrator, concerning the operation of the Program for the period from April 1, 2022 through March 31, 2023 (the "Period"). The Report addressed the operation of the Program and assessed the adequacy and effectiveness of its implementation, including, where applicable, the operation of any HLIM established for a Federated Hermes Fund. There were no material changes to the Program during the Period. The Report summarized the operation of the Program and

the information and factors considered by the Administrator in assessing whether the Program has been adequately and effectively implemented with respect to the Federated Hermes Funds. Such information and factors included, among other things:

- confirmation that it was not necessary for the Fund to utilize, and the Fund did not utilize, any alternative funding sources that were available to the Federated Hermes Funds during the Period, such as the Federated Hermes Funds' interfund lending facility, redemptions in-kind, reverse repurchase agreement transactions, redemptions delayed beyond the normal T+1 settlement but within seven days of the redemption request, and committed lines of credit;
- the periodic classifications of the Fund's investments into one of four liquidity categories and the methodologies and inputs used to classify the investments, including the Fund's reasonably anticipated trade size;
- the analysis received from a third-party liquidity assessment vendor that is taken into account in the process of determining the liquidity classifications of the Fund's investments, and the results of the Administrator's evaluation of the services performed by the vendor in support of this process, including the Administrator's view that the methodologies utilized by the vendor continue to be appropriate;
- the fact that the Fund invested primarily in highly liquid investments during the Period and, therefore, was not required to establish, and has not established, an HLIM and the operation of the procedures for monitoring the status of the Fund as investing primarily in highly liquid investments;
- the fact that the Fund invested no more than 15% of its assets in illiquid investments during the Period, and the operation of the procedures for monitoring this limit;
- the fact that there were no liquidity events during the Period that materially affected the Fund's liquidity risk;
- the impact on liquidity and management of liquidity risk, if any, caused by extended non-U.S. market closures and confirmation that there were no issues for any of the affected Federated Hermes Funds in meeting shareholder redemptions at any time during these temporary non-U.S. market closures.

Based on this review, the Administrator concluded that the Program is operating effectively to assess and manage the Fund's liquidity risk, and that the Program has been and continues to be adequately and effectively implemented to monitor and, as applicable, respond to the Fund's liquidity developments.

### Voting Proxies on Fund Portfolio Securities

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies, if any, relating to securities held in the Fund's portfolio is available, without charge and upon request, by calling 1-800-341-7400, Option #4. A report on "Form N-PX" of how the Fund voted any such proxies during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available via the Proxy Voting Record (Form N-PX) link associated with the Fund and share class name at FederatedHermes.com/us/FundInformation. Form N-PX filings are also available at the SEC's website at sec.gov.

### Quarterly Portfolio Schedule

Each fiscal quarter, the Fund will file with the SEC a complete schedule of its monthly portfolio holdings on "Form N-PORT." The Fund's holdings as of the end of the third month of every fiscal quarter, as reported on Form N-PORT, will be publicly available on the SEC's website at <a href="sec.gov">sec.gov</a> within 60 days of the end of the fiscal quarter upon filing. You may also access this information via the link to the Fund and share class name at FederatedHermes.com/us.

Mutual funds are not bank deposits or obligations, are not guaranteed by any bank and are not insured or guaranteed by the U.S. government, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency. Investment in mutual funds involves investment risk, including the possible loss of principal.

This Report is authorized for distribution to prospective investors only when preceded or accompanied by the Fund's Prospectus, which contains facts concerning its objective and policies, management fees, expenses and other information.

#### Sign up for Electronic Delivery!

A faster way to receive documents.

If you purchased shares through a financial intermediary (bank or broker-dealer), please contact your representative to set up e-delivery. Otherwise, contact the Fund at 1-800-341-7400, Option #4.



Federated Hermes Institutional High Yield Bond Fund Federated Hermes Funds 4000 Ericsson Drive Warrendale, PA 15086-7561

Contact us at **FederatedHermes.com/us** or call 1-800-341-7400.

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