

FIRST TRUST ENERGY INCOME & GROWTH FUND

Form N-2/A

April 18, 2012

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 18, 2012

1933 Act File No. 333-179878
1940 Act File No. 811-21549

U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2

(Check appropriate box or boxes)

- REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933
 Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1
 Post-Effective Amendment No. ___

and

- REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940
 Amendment No. 25

First Trust Energy Income and Growth Fund
Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Declaration of Trust

187 Danbury Road, Wilton CT 06897
Address of Principal Executive Offices (Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code)

(630) 765-8000
Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code

W. Scott Jardine, Esq.
First Trust Portfolios L.P.
120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
Name and Address (Number, Street, City, State, Zip Code) of Agent for Service

Copies of Communications to:

Eric F. Fess, Esq.
Chapman and Cutler LLP
111 West Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois 60603

Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering: From time to time after the effective date of this Registration Statement

If any of the securities being registered on this form are offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box.

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box)

when declared effective pursuant to section 8(c)

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CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

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| Title of Securities Being Registered | Amount Being Registered | Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit(1) | Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1) | Amount |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|--|--------|
| Common Shares, \$0.01 par value | 5,649,000 shares | \$31.36 | \$177,152,640 | |

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such dates as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. WE MAY NOT SELL THESE SECURITIES UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IS EFFECTIVE. THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND IT IS NOT SOLICITING AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY JURISDICTION WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION DATED APRIL 18, 2012

BASE PROSPECTUS

FIRST TRUST ENERGY INCOME AND GROWTH FUND
UP TO 5,649,000 COMMON SHARES

The Fund. First Trust Energy Income and Growth Fund (the "Fund") is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company which commenced operations in June 2004.

Investment Objective. The Fund's investment objective is to seek a high level of after-tax total return with an emphasis on current distributions paid to shareholders.

Investment Strategy. The Fund seeks to provide its common shareholders with an efficient vehicle to invest in a portfolio of cash-generating securities of

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energy companies. The Fund focuses on investing in publicly traded master limited partnerships ("MLPs") and related public entities in the energy sector, which the Fund's Sub-Advisor (as defined below) believes offer opportunities for income and growth. Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 85% of its Managed Assets (as defined below) (including assets obtained through leverage) in securities of energy companies and energy sector MLPs and energy sector MLP-related entities. As used in this prospectus, unless the context requires otherwise, MLPs are those MLPs in the energy sector. To generate additional income, the Fund writes (or sells) covered call options on the common stock of energy companies held in the Fund's portfolio. See "The Fund's Investments".

The Fund's currently outstanding common shares are, and the common shares offered in this prospectus will be, subject to notice of issuance, listed on the NYSE Amex (formerly the American Stock Exchange) under the trading or "ticker" symbol "FEN." The net asset value of the Fund's common shares on November 30, 2011 was \$27.31 per common share, and the last sale price of the common shares on the NYSE Amex on such date was \$27.45.

The Fund may offer, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, up to 5,649,000 of the Fund's common shares in one or more offerings. The Fund may offer its common shares in amounts, at prices and on terms set forth in a prospectus supplement to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the related prospectus supplement carefully before you decide to invest in any of the common shares.

The Fund may offer the common shares directly to one or more purchasers, through agents that the Fund or the purchasers designate from time to time, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the particular offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of the common shares, and will set forth any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Fund and such agents or underwriters or among the underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. For more information about the manner in which the Fund may offer the common shares, see "Plan of Distribution." The common shares may not be sold through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement.

INVESTING IN COMMON SHARES INVOLVES CERTAIN RISKS. YOU COULD LOSE SOME OR ALL OF YOUR INVESTMENT. SEE "RISKS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 39.

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE SECURITIES OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

(continued on the following page)

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Due to the nature of the Fund's MLP investments, under current law the Fund is not eligible to elect to be treated as a "regulated investment company" under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"), as is common for most investment companies. Rather, the Fund has elected to be treated as a regular corporation for federal income tax purposes and, as such, unlike most investment companies, it will be subject to corporate income tax to the extent the Fund recognizes taxable income.

Investment Advisor and Sub-Advisor. First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust

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Advisors" or the "Advisor") is the Fund's investment advisor, responsible for supervising the Fund's Sub-Advisor, monitoring the Fund's investment portfolio, managing the Fund's business affairs and providing certain clerical and bookkeeping and other administrative services. The Advisor, in consultation with the Sub-Advisor, is also responsible for determining the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing its implementation. Energy Income Partners, LLC ("Energy Income Partners" or the "Sub-Advisor") is the Fund's sub-advisor and is primarily responsible for the day-to-day supervision and investment strategy of the Fund.

First Trust Advisors serves as investment advisor or portfolio supervisor to investment portfolios with approximately \$47 billion in assets which it managed or supervised as of November 30, 2011. Energy Income Partners serves as investment advisor or portfolio supervisor to investment portfolios with approximately \$1.5 billion in assets, which it managed or supervised as of November 30, 2011. See "Management of the Fund."

Use of Financial Leverage. The Fund is currently engaged in, and may in the future engage in, the use of financial leverage to seek to enhance the level of its current distributions to common shareholders. The Fund may use leverage through the issuance of preferred shares ("Preferred Shares") and/or through the issuance of commercial paper or notes and/or other borrowings ("Borrowings") by the Fund. As of November 30, 2011, aggregate financial leverage through Borrowings (collectively, "Financial Leverage") was approximately 26% of the Fund's Managed Assets (as defined below) (including the proceeds of the Financial Leverage). The term "Managed Assets" means the average daily gross asset value of the Fund (which includes assets attributable to the Fund's Preferred Shares, if any, and the principal amount of Borrowings), minus the sum of the Fund's accrued and unpaid dividends on any outstanding Preferred Shares and accrued liabilities (other than the principal amount of any Borrowings incurred and the liquidation preference of any outstanding Preferred Shares). The determination to use Financial Leverage is subject to the approval of the Fund's Board of Trustees ("Board of Trustees").

You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, which contains important information about the Fund, before deciding whether to invest in the common shares, and retain it for future reference. This prospectus, together with any prospectus supplement, sets forth concisely the information about the Fund that a prospective investor ought to know before investing. The Statement of Additional Information (the "SAI"), dated April 1, 2011, containing additional information about the Fund, has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is incorporated by reference in its entirety into this prospectus. You may request a free copy of the SAI, the table of contents of which is on page 66 of this prospectus, annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders, and other information about the Fund, and make shareholder inquiries by calling (800) 988-5891, by writing to the Fund or from the Fund's website (<http://www.ftportfolios.com>). Please note that the information contained in the Fund's website, whether currently posted or posted in the future, is not part of this prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus. You also may obtain a copy of the SAI (and other information regarding the Fund) from the Securities and Exchange Commission's web site (<http://www.sec.gov>).

Shares of common stock of closed-end investment companies, like the Fund, frequently trade at discounts to their net asset values. If the Fund's common shares trade at a discount to net asset value, the risk of loss may increase for purchasers in this offering, especially for those investors who expect to sell their common shares in a relatively short period after purchasing shares in this offering. See "Risks -- Market Discount From Net Asset Value." The Fund's common shares do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal

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Reserve Board or any other government agency.

Prospectus dated , 2012

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CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and the SAI, including documents incorporated by reference, contain "forward-looking statements." Forward-looking statements can be identified by the words "may," "will," "intend," "expect," "estimate," "continue," "plan," "anticipate," and similar terms and the negative of such terms. By their nature, all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Several factors that could materially affect the Fund's actual results are the performance of the portfolio of securities held by the Fund, the conditions in the U.S. and international financial, petroleum and other markets, the price at which the Fund's common shares will trade in the public markets and other factors discussed in the Fund's periodic filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC").

Although we believe that the expectations expressed in these forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially from those projected or assumed in these forward-looking statements. The Fund's future financial condition and results of operations, as well as any forward-looking statements, are subject to change and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties, such as those disclosed in the "Risks" section of this prospectus. All forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or any accompanying prospectus supplement are made as of the date of this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement, as the case may be. We do not intend, and we undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus and any accompanying prospectus supplement are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act").

Currently known risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the Fund's expectations include, but are not limited to, the factors described in the "Risks" section of this prospectus. We urge you to review carefully that section for a more detailed discussion of the risks of an investment in the Fund's securities.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. This summary does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in the Fund's common shares. You should carefully read the entire prospectus, any related prospectus supplement and the SAI, including the documents incorporated by reference, particularly the section entitled "Risks" beginning on page 39.

THE FUND First Trust Energy Income and Growth Fund is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment

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company which commenced operations in June 2004. In March 2012, the Board of Trustees of the Fund approved a name change for the Fund from "Energy Income and Growth Fund" to "First Trust Energy Income and Growth Fund." The Fund's investment objective is to seek a high level of after-tax total return with an emphasis on current distributions paid to common shareholders. The Fund seeks to provide its common shareholders with an efficient vehicle to invest in a portfolio of cash-generating securities of energy companies. The Fund completed its initial public offering of common shares in June 2004, raising approximately \$122 million in equity after the payment of offering expenses. As of November 30, 2011, the Fund had 14,109,563 common shares outstanding and net assets applicable to common shares of \$385,325,984. The common shares of beneficial interest offered by this prospectus are called "Common Shares" and the holders of Common Shares are called "Common Shareholders" in this prospectus. As used in this prospectus, unless the context requires otherwise, "common shares" refers to the Fund's common shares of beneficial interest currently outstanding as well as those Common Shares offered by this prospectus and the holders of common shares are called "common shareholders."

INVESTMENT ADVISOR

AND SUB-ADVISOR.....

First Trust Advisors L.P. ("First Trust Advisors" or the "Advisor") is the Fund's investment advisor, responsible for supervising the Fund's Sub-Advisor (as defined below), monitoring the Fund's investment portfolio, managing the Fund's business affairs and providing certain clerical and bookkeeping and other administrative services. The Advisor, in consultation with the Sub-Advisor, is also responsible for determining the Fund's overall investment strategy and overseeing its implementation. Energy Income Partners, LLC ("Energy Income Partners" or the "Sub-Advisor") is the Fund's sub-advisor and is primarily responsible for the day-to-day supervision and investment strategy of the Fund.

First Trust Advisors, a registered investment advisor, is an Illinois limited partnership formed in 1991. First Trust Advisors serves as investment advisor or portfolio supervisor to investment portfolios with approximately \$47 billion in assets which it managed or supervised as of November 30, 2011.

Energy Income Partners is a limited liability company and a registered investment advisor, which provides professional asset management services in the area of energy-related MLPs, and other high-payout securities. Founded in 2003, Energy Income Partners serves as investment advisor to investment portfolios with approximately \$1.5 billion of assets which it managed as of November 30, 2011.

THE OFFERING

The Fund may offer, on an immediate, continuous or delayed basis, up to 5,649,000 Common Shares on terms to be determined at the time of the offering. The Common Shares will be offered at prices and on terms to be set

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forth in one or more prospectus supplements to this prospectus. Offerings of the Common Shares will be subject to the provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") which generally require that the public offering price of common shares of a closed-end investment company (exclusive of

distribution commissions and discounts) must equal or exceed the net asset value per share of a company's common stock (calculated within 48 hours of pricing), absent shareholder approval or under certain other circumstances. The Fund has received shareholder approval to engage in offerings at a price less than net asset value under certain conditions. See "Description of Shares."

The Fund may offer the Common Shares directly to one or more purchasers, through agents that the Fund or the purchasers designate from time to time, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The prospectus supplement relating to the offering will identify any agents or underwriters involved in the sale of the Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable purchase price, fee, commission or discount arrangement between us and such agents or underwriters or among underwriters or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated. See "Plan of Distribution." The Common Shares may not be sold through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of the Common Shares.

USE OF PROCEEDS Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, the Fund will use the net proceeds from the sale of the Common Shares primarily to invest in accordance with its investment objective and policies, or use such proceeds for other general corporate purposes.

DISTRIBUTIONS The Fund's distributions generally consist of (i) cash and paid-in-kind distributions from MLPs or their affiliates, dividends from common stocks, interest from debt instruments and income from other investments held by the Fund less (ii) current or accrued operating expenses of the Fund, including taxes on Fund taxable income and leverage costs. Due to the tax treatment under current law of cash distributions made by MLPs in which the Fund invests, a portion of the distributions the Fund anticipates making to common shareholders may consist of tax-deferred return of capital. To the extent that distributions exceed the Fund's earnings and profits, distributions are generally not treated as taxable income for the investor. Instead, the common shareholders will experience a reduction in the basis of their shares, which may increase the capital gain or reduce capital loss, realized upon the sale of such shares. Section 19(a) of the 1940 Act and Rule 19a-1 thereunder requires the Fund to provide a written statement accompanying payment of a distribution from any source other than income that adequately discloses

the source or sources of payment. Thus, if the Fund's capital was the source of a distribution and the payment amounted to a return of capital, the Fund would be required to provide a written notice to that effect. A "return of capital" represents a return on a shareholder's original investment in the Fund's common shares, and should not be confused with a dividend from profits and earnings. Upon the sale of common shares, common shareholders generally will recognize capital gain or loss measured by the difference between the sale proceeds received by the common shareholder and the shareholder's federal income tax basis in common shares sold, as adjusted to reflect return of capital. Accordingly, common shareholders should carefully review any written disclosure accompanying a distribution and should not assume that the source of payment is the Fund's income. The Fund intends to make quarterly distributions to common shareholders. There is no assurance that the Fund will continue to make regular distributions. See "Tax Considerations" in this Summary and "Tax Matters."

Unless a shareholder elects to receive distributions in cash, distributions will be used to purchase additional common shares of the Fund. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."

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INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE
AND POLICIES.....

The Fund's investment objective is to seek a high level of after-tax total return with an emphasis on current distributions paid to common shareholders. For purposes of the Fund's investment objective, total return includes capital appreciation of, and all distributions received from, securities in which the Fund invests regardless of the tax character of the distributions. The Fund seeks to provide its common shareholders with an efficient vehicle to invest in a portfolio of cash-generating securities of energy companies. The Fund focuses on investing in MLPs and related public entities in the energy sector which the Sub-Advisor believes offer opportunities for income and growth. As used in this prospectus, unless the context requires otherwise, MLPs are those MLPs in the energy sector. There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be achieved. The types of MLPs in which the Fund invests historically have made cash distributions to limited partners or members that exceed the amount of taxable income allocable to limited partners or members, due to a variety of factors, including significant non cash deductions, such as depreciation and depletion. If cash distributions from an MLP exceeds the taxable income reported in a particular tax year, a portion of the excess tax distribution would not be treated as income to the Fund in that tax year but would rather be treated as a return of capital for federal income tax purposes to the extent of the Fund's basis in its MLP units. The Fund's tax basis in an MLP is the amount paid for the

interest, decreased for any distributions of cash received by the Fund in excess of the Fund's allocable share of taxable income and decreased by the Fund's allocable share of net losses. Thus, although cash in excess of taxable income and net tax losses may create a temporary economic benefit to the Fund, they will increase the amount of gain (or decrease the amount of loss) on the sale of an interest in an MLP. See "Tax Considerations" in this Summary and "Tax Matters."

The Fund's investment objective and the investment restrictions listed in the SAI are considered fundamental and may not be changed without approval by holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund, as defined in the 1940 Act, which includes common shares and Preferred Shares, if any, voting together as a single class, and the holders of the outstanding Preferred Shares, if any, voting as a single class. The remainder of the Fund's investment policies, including its investment strategy, are considered non-fundamental and may be changed by the Board of Trustees without shareholder approval. The Fund will provide investors with at least 60 days prior notice of any change in the Fund's investment strategy. Unless otherwise stated, all investment restrictions apply at the time of purchase and the Fund will not be required to reduce a position due solely to market fluctuations. There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be achieved. See "The Fund's Investments" and "Risks" in this prospectus and "Investment Policies and Techniques" in the Fund's SAI.

Under normal market conditions, as a non-fundamental policy, the Fund invests at least 85% of its Managed Assets (including assets obtained through leverage) in securities of energy companies and energy sector MLPs and energy sector MLP-related entities, and invests at least 65% of its Managed Assets in equity securities of such MLPs and MLP-related entities.

The Fund has adopted the following additional non-fundamental investment policies:

- o The Fund may invest up to 35% of its Managed Assets in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities (including up to 10% of its Managed Assets in

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securities issued by private companies). The types of unregistered or otherwise restricted securities that the Fund may purchase consist of MLP common units, MLP subordinated units and securities of public and private energy companies.

- o The Fund may invest up to 25% of its Managed Assets in debt securities of energy companies, MLPs and MLP-related entities, including below investment grade securities, which are commonly referred to as

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"junk bonds." Below investment grade debt securities will be rated at least "B3" by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's") and at least "B-" by Standard & Poor's Ratings Group ("S&P") at the time of purchase, or comparably rated by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization ("NRSRO") or, if unrated, determined to be of comparable quality by the Sub-Advisor.

- o The Fund will not invest more than 10% of its Managed Assets in any single issuer.

- o The Fund will not engage in short sales, except to the extent the Fund engages in derivative investments to seek to hedge against interest rate risk in connection with the Fund's use of Financial Leverage or market risks associated with the Fund's portfolio.

- o The Fund may invest up to 15% of its Managed Assets in non-U.S. securities as well as hedge the currency risk of the non-U.S. securities using derivative instruments.

To generate additional income, the Fund writes (or sells) covered call options on the common stock of energy companies held in the Fund's portfolio. The Fund anticipates that it will be able to invest substantially all of the net proceeds of any offering of Common Shares pursuant to this prospectus and applicable prospectus supplement in securities that meet the Fund's investment objective and policies within one month after the completion of any such offering.

THE FUND'S

INVESTMENTS

The Fund's investments consist of equity and/or debt securities issued by energy companies and energy sector MLPs and energy sector MLP-related entities. The companies in which the Fund invests are generally involved in the business of transporting, processing, storing, distributing or marketing natural gas, natural gas liquids ("NGLs") (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products, coal or electricity, or exploring, developing, managing or producing such commodities or products, or in supplying products and services in support of pipelines, power transmission and petroleum and natural gas production, transportation and storage.

The types of MLP and MLP-related entity equity securities the Fund purchases include common units, subordinated units and I-Shares. Unlike the holders of common stock of a corporation, investors in MLP common units, including the Fund, have limited control and voting rights on matters affecting the partnership. Investors in MLP common units are generally entitled to minimum quarterly distributions ("MQD") from the MLP, including arrearage rights, which must be satisfied before any distributions are paid to subordinated unit holders or incentive payments are made to the MLP's general partner. MLP common units are typically listed and traded on a U.S. securities exchange. While the Fund

anticipates that it will generally purchase MLP common units in open market transactions, the Fund has purchased in the past, and may purchase in the future, MLP common units through direct placements. MLP subordinated units provide for distributions to be made to holders once the MQD payable to common unit holders

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have been satisfied but prior to incentive payments to the MLP's general partner. MLP subordinated units do not provide for arrearage rights and are typically convertible into common units after a specified period of time or upon the achievement of specified financial goals. As MLP subordinated units are not typically listed or publicly traded, the Fund anticipates that it will purchase MLP subordinated units directly from MLP affiliates or holders of such shares. I-Shares are similar in most respects to common units except that distributions payable on I-Shares are in the form of additional I-Shares rather than cash distributions. As a result, the Fund will consider its own distribution targets and cash holdings when making a determination as to whether to purchase I-Shares.

The Fund may also invest in equity and debt securities of MLP-related entities, such as general partners or other affiliates of MLPs and equity and debt securities of energy companies that are organized and/or taxed as corporations.

The Fund may invest up to 35% of its Managed Assets in equity securities issued by energy companies. The Fund intends to purchase these equity securities in market transactions but may also purchase securities directly from the issuers in private placements. To generate additional income, the Fund sells covered call options on the common stock of energy companies held in the Fund's portfolio.

HEDGING AND STRATEGIC
TRANSACTIONS

The Fund may, but is not required to, use various hedging and strategic transactions to seek to reduce interest rate risks arising from any use of Financial Leverage, to facilitate portfolio management and to mitigate risks, including interest rate, currency and credit risks. The Fund currently writes (or sells) covered call options on the common stock of energy companies held in the Fund's portfolio. Call options are contracts representing the right to purchase a common stock at a specified price (the "strike price") at a specified future date (the "expiration date"). The price of the option is determined from trading activity in the broad options market, and generally reflects the relationship between the current market price for the underlying common stock and the strike price, as well as the time remaining until the expiration date. The Fund will write call options only if they are "covered." In the case of a call option on a common stock or other

security, the option is "covered" if the Fund owns the security underlying the call or has an absolute and immediate right to acquire that security without additional cash consideration (or, if additional cash consideration is required, cash or other assets determined to be liquid by the Sub-Advisor (in accordance with procedures established by the Board of Trustees) in such amount are segregated by the Fund's custodian) upon conversion or exchange of other securities held by the Fund.

The Fund may, to a lesser extent, purchase and sell derivative investments such as exchange-listed and over-the-counter put and call options on securities, energy-related commodities, equity, fixed income and interest rate indices, currencies, and other financial instruments, purchase and sell financial futures contracts and options thereon, and enter into various interest rate transactions such as swaps, caps, floors or collars or credit transactions and credit default swaps. The Fund also may purchase derivative investments that combine features of these instruments. Collectively, all of the above are referred to as "Strategic Transactions." The Fund generally seeks to use these instruments and transactions as a portfolio management or hedging technique to seek to protect against possible adverse changes in the market value of securities held in or to be purchased for the Fund's portfolio, protect the value of the Fund's portfolio, facilitate the sale of certain securities for investment

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purposes, manage the effective interest rate and currency exposure of the Fund, or establish positions in the derivatives markets as a temporary substitute for purchasing or selling particular securities. For purposes of determining the Fund's compliance with the investment requirements relating to MLP and MLP-related entities, the Fund values Strategic Transactions based upon their respective current fair market values. In prior fiscal years, the Fund has entered into interest rate swaps. During the fiscal year ended November 30, 2011, the Fund wrote covered call options on the common stocks of energy companies held in the Fund's portfolio. The Fund expects to continue to utilize Strategic Transactions in a manner similar to its activity during fiscal 2011. See "The Fund's Investments-- Investment Practices."

USE OF FINANCIAL

LEVERAGE

The Fund is currently engaged in, and may in the future engage in, the use of Financial Leverage to seek to enhance the level of its current distributions to common shareholders. On January 28, 2005, the Fund issued \$34 million principal amount of auction rate senior notes due March 2, 2045 (the "Series A Notes") and on March 26, 2006, issued \$25 million principal amount of auction rate senior notes due March 20, 2046 (the "Series B

Notes"), which were rated "Aaa" and "AAA" by Moody's and Fitch Ratings Services, Inc. ("Fitch"), respectively. On March 26, 2008, the Fund entered into a \$55 million senior revolving credit facility with The Bank of Nova Scotia (the "Credit Facility"), of which \$34 million was utilized to redeem the issued and outstanding Series A Notes. On January 23, 2009, the Fund entered into a commitment facility agreement with BNP Paribas Prime Brokerage Inc. (as amended from time to time, the "Commitment Facility"), which was used to repay in full outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility and, on February 26, 2009, to deposit funds to redeem the issued and outstanding Series B Notes. All of the issued and outstanding Series B Notes were redeemed on March 13, 2009. As of November 30, 2011, the maximum commitment amount was \$162,000,000. As of November 30, 2011, the principal amount of Borrowings under the Commitment Facility was \$137,900,000, representing approximately 26% of the Fund's Managed Assets. As of November 30, 2011, the Fund had \$24,100,000 of unutilized funds available for Borrowing under the Commitment Facility.

The Fund's common shares are junior in liquidation and distribution rights to amounts owed pursuant to the Commitment Facility. The issuance of Preferred Shares and/or Borrowings (each a "Leverage Instrument" and collectively, the "Leverage Instruments"), represent the leveraging of the Fund's common shares. The issuance of additional Common Shares offered by this prospectus will enable the Fund to increase the aggregate amount of its leverage. The use of Financial Leverage creates an opportunity for increased income and capital appreciation for common shareholders, but at the same time, it creates special risks that may adversely affect common shareholders. Because both the Advisor's and Sub-Advisor's fees are based on Managed Assets (including assets obtained through leverage), both the Advisor's and Sub-Advisor's fees are higher when the Fund is leveraged. There can be no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful during any period in which it is used. Leverage creates a greater risk of loss, as well as potential for more gain, for the common shares than if leverage is not used. The determination to use Financial Leverage is subject to the Board of Trustees' approval and the ability of the Fund to obtain Financial Leverage. Leverage Instruments will have seniority over the common shares. The use of Leverage Instruments will leverage your investment in the Common Shares. The Fund expects to issue additional Leverage Instruments to extent such Financial Leverage is available. If the Fund uses additional Leverage

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Instruments, associated costs, if any, will be borne immediately by common shareholders and result in a reduction of the net asset value of the common shares.

Preferred Shares, if any, may pay dividends based on

short-term rates, which may be reset frequently. Borrowings may be at a fixed or floating rate and generally will be based upon short-term rates. So long as the rate of return, net of applicable Fund expenses, on the Fund's portfolio investments purchased with leverage exceeds the then current interest rate or dividend rate on the Leverage Instruments, the Fund will generate more return or income than will be needed to pay such dividends or interest payments. In this event, the excess will be available to pay higher distributions to common shareholders. Conversely, if the income or gains from the securities and investments purchased with such proceeds does not cover the cost of leverage, the return to the common shares will be less than if leverage had not been used. When leverage is employed, the net asset value and market prices of the common shares and the yield to common shareholders will be more volatile.

There is no assurance that the Fund will utilize Financial Leverage in addition to the Commitment Facility or, if additional Financial Leverage is utilized, that it will be successful in enhancing the level of the Fund's current distributions.

The Fund may make further use of Financial Leverage through the issuance of notes or other senior securities to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act. However, it is possible that the Fund will be unable to obtain additional Financial Leverage. In the current economic environment, it has become more difficult for borrowers, including the Fund, to find third parties willing to extend credit or purchase securities that would constitute Financial Leverage. If the Fund is unable to increase Financial Leverage after the issuance of additional Common Shares pursuant to this prospectus, there could be an adverse impact on the return to common shareholders. In addition, to the extent additional Financial Leverage is utilized, the Fund may consequently be subject to certain financial covenants and restrictions that are not currently imposed on the Fund. See "Use of Financial Leverage" and "Risks -- Leverage Risk."

TAX CONSIDERATIONS ... Fund Status. The Fund is taxed as a regular corporation for federal income tax purposes and as such is obligated to pay federal and applicable state and foreign corporate taxes on its taxable income. This differs from most investment companies, which elect to be treated as "regulated investment companies" under the Internal Revenue Code in order to avoid paying entity level income taxes. Under current law, the Fund is not eligible to elect treatment as a regulated investment company due to its investment of a substantial portion of its Managed Assets in MLPs invested in energy assets. As a result, the Fund is obligated to pay taxes on its taxable income as opposed to most other investment companies which are not so obligated. However, as discussed below, the Fund expects that a portion of the distributions it receives from MLPs may be treated as a tax-deferred return of capital, thus reducing the Fund's current tax liability. For purposes of computing net

asset value, the Fund accrues deferred income taxes for its future tax liability associated with that portion of MLP distributions considered to be tax-deferred return of capital as well as capital appreciation of its investments. The Fund relies to some extent on information provided by MLPs, which is usually not timely, to estimate deferred tax liability for purposes of financial statement reporting and determining the Fund's net asset value. From time to time the Fund will modify its estimates and/or assumptions regarding its deferred tax liability as new information becomes

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available. The taxation of Fund distributions is discussed further under "Tax Matters."

Fund Assets.

- o Investments in MLPs. The Fund invests primarily in MLPs and MLP-related entities. The benefit the Fund derives from its investment in MLPs is largely dependent on MLPs being treated as partnerships for federal income tax purposes. As a partnership, an MLP has no income tax liability on MLP qualified income at the entity level. As a limited partner in the MLPs in which it invests, the Fund is allocated its pro rata share of income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses from the MLPs. A significant portion of MLP income has historically been offset by tax deductions. In this situation, the Fund will incur a current tax liability on that portion of the income from an MLP not offset by tax deductions with a portion of any distribution being treated as a tax-deferred return of capital. The Fund's tax basis in its MLP units would be reduced by amounts treated as tax-deferred return of capital, which would either increase the Fund's taxable gain or reduce the Fund's loss recognized upon the sale of an MLP. The percentage of an MLP's distribution which is offset by tax deductions will fluctuate over time for various reasons. A significant slowdown in acquisition or investment activity by MLPs held by the Fund could result in a reduction of accelerated depreciation or other deductions generated by these activities, which may result in increased current tax liability to the Fund. Certain energy related deductions are also not allowed for alternative minimum tax purposes, which may cause the Fund to be subject to the alternative minimum tax depending upon the nature of the assets of the MLPs. A reduction in the percentage of income offset by tax deductions or an increase in the Fund's portfolio turnover will reduce that portion of the Fund's distribution treated as a tax-deferred return of capital and increase that portion treated as income, and may result in reduced Fund distributions and lower after-tax distributions to the Fund's common shareholders.

- o Investments in Other Securities. The Fund may also invest in equity and debt securities of energy companies that are organized and/or taxed as corporations. Interest and dividend payments received by the Fund with respect to such securities generally are included in the Fund's corporate taxable income in the year in which they are received, although the Fund may qualify for the dividends-received deduction with respect to dividends on certain of the equity securities owned by the Fund.

Shareholder Tax Aspects.

- o Current Distributions on Shares. Common shareholders of the Fund hold common shares of a Massachusetts business trust which has elected for federal income tax purposes to be taxed as a corporation. There is a significant difference, for federal income tax purposes, between owning common shares of a taxable entity treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes (such as the Fund) versus owning partnership interests in the MLPs in which the Fund invests. Common shareholders of the Fund will be subject to potential income tax only if the Fund pays out distributions. Depending on the nature of the distribution made by the Fund, the tax character of such distribution to common shareholders will vary. Distributions made from current and accumulated earnings and profits of the Fund will be taxable to common shareholders as dividend income.

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Prior to 2013, dividend income generally will qualify for treatment as "qualified dividend income" for federal income tax purposes if holding period and other requirements are satisfied by the common shareholder receiving such dividend income. Qualified dividend income received by individual shareholders is taxed at long-term capital gains rates, which reach a maximum of 15%. The special tax treatment afforded to qualified dividend income is set to end as of December 31, 2012 (assuming such special tax treatment is not repealed by Congress before then). After December 31, 2012, dividends will be taxed at ordinary income rates. Currently, the highest federal income tax rate applicable to individuals as ordinary income is 35%. This rate is scheduled to increase to 39.6% after 2012. Distributions that are in an amount greater than the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits will represent a tax-deferred return of capital to the extent of a common shareholder's basis in its common shares, and such distributions would correspondingly reduce the common shareholder's basis in its common shares. A reduction in the common shareholder's basis would potentially

increase the common shareholder's gain (or reduce the common shareholder's loss) recognized upon the sale of the common shares. Additionally, excess distributions that exceed a common shareholder's tax basis in its common shares will generally be taxed as gain. The past performance of MLPs indicates that a significant portion of the Fund's distributions to common shareholders will likely represent a tax-deferred return of capital. However, there can be no guarantee that the Fund's expectation regarding the tax character of its distributions will be realized or that the Fund will make regular distributions. See "Distributions."

- o Sale of Shares. Common shareholders generally will recognize a gain or loss upon the sale of their common shares. Such gain or loss is equal to the difference between the common shareholder's federal income tax basis in its common shares sold (as adjusted to reflect return of capital) and the sale proceeds received by the common shareholder upon the disposition of common shares. As a general rule, the sale of a capital asset, like common shares, held for more than a year will result in a long-term capital gain or loss. See "Tax Matters."

COMPARISON WITH
DIRECT INVESTMENTS
IN MLPs

The Fund seeks to provide an efficient method for investing in MLPs, MLP-related entities and other energy companies. Some of the benefits of investing in the Fund as opposed to directly investing in MLPs include:

- o The Fund provides, through a single investment vehicle, an investment in a portfolio of a number of MLPs, MLP-related entities and other energy companies;
- o Direct investors in MLPs receive a partnership statement (a Form K-1 statement) from each MLP they own and may be required to file income tax returns in each state in which the MLPs operate. Common shareholders of the Fund will receive a single Form 1099 and will only be required to file income tax returns in states in which they would ordinarily file;
- o Direct investors in MLPs are limited in their ability to use losses to offset other gains by the passive activity income and loss rules, whereas common shareholders of the Fund are not so limited; and
- o Income received by tax-exempt investors, including employee benefit plans and IRA accounts, from MLPs is generally treated as unrelated business taxable

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income ("UBTI"), whereas distributions these investors receive from an entity treated for federal income tax purposes as a corporation (such as the Fund) will generally not be treated as UBTI, unless the stock is debt-financed.

LISTING The Fund's currently outstanding common shares are, and the Common Shares offered in this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement will be, subject to notice of issuance, listed on the NYSE Amex under the trading or "ticker" symbol "FEN." The net asset value of the Fund's common shares at the close of business on November 30, 2011 was \$27.31 per common share, and the last sale price of the common shares on the NYSE Amex on such date was \$27.45.

CORPORATE FINANCE SERVICES AND

CONSULTING AGENT..... Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, as successor to A.G. Edwards, serves as corporate finance services and consulting agent to the Advisor, pursuant to a Corporate Finance Services and Consulting Agreement between A.G. Edwards and the Advisor. See "Corporate Finance Services and Consulting Fee."

CUSTODIAN, ADMINISTRATOR

AND TRANSFER AGENT.... BNY Mellon Investment Servicing (US) Inc., formerly known as PNC Global Investment Servicing (U.S.) Inc., serves as the Fund's Administrator, Fund Accountant, Transfer Agent and Board Administrator in accordance with certain fee arrangements. PFPC Trust Company serves as the Fund's Custodian in accordance with certain fee arrangements.

CLOSED-END

STRUCTURE Closed-end funds differ from open-end management investment companies (commonly referred to as mutual funds) in that closed-end funds generally list their shares for trading on a securities exchange and do not redeem their shares at the option of the shareholder. By comparison, mutual funds issue securities redeemable at net asset value at the option of the shareholder and typically engage in a continuous offering of their shares. Mutual funds are subject to continuous asset in-flows and out-flows that can complicate portfolio management, whereas closed-end funds generally can stay more fully invested in securities consistent with the closed-end fund's investment objective and policies. In addition, in comparison to open-end funds, closed-end funds have greater flexibility in their ability to make certain types of investments, including investments in illiquid securities.

Shares of closed-end investment companies listed for trading on a securities exchange frequently trade at a discount from net asset value, but in some cases trade at a premium. The market price may be affected by net asset value, dividend or distribution levels (which are dependent, in part, on expenses), supply of and demand for the shares, stability of dividends or distributions, trading volume of the shares, general market and

economic conditions and other factors beyond the control of the closed-end fund. The foregoing factors may result in the market price of the common shares of the Fund being greater than, less than or equal to, net asset value. The Board of Trustees has reviewed the structure of the Fund in light of its investment objective and policies and has determined that the closed-end structure is appropriate. As described in this prospectus, however, the Board of Trustees may review periodically the trading range and activity of the Fund's common shares with respect to their net asset value and may take certain actions to seek to reduce or eliminate any such discount. Such actions may include open market repurchases or tender offers for the common shares at net asset value or the possible conversion of the Fund to an open-end investment company. There can be no assurance that the Board of Trustees will decide to

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undertake any of these actions or that, if undertaken, such actions would result in the common shares trading at a price equal to or close to net asset value per common share. In addition, as noted above, the Board of Trustees determined in connection with the initial offering of common shares of the Fund that the closed-end structure is desirable, given the Fund's investment objective and policies. Investors should assume, therefore, that it is highly unlikely that the Board of Trustees would vote to convert the Fund to an open-end investment company. See "Structure of the Fund; Common Share Repurchases and Change in Fund Structure."

SPECIAL RISK

CONSIDERATIONS

Investment and Market Risk. An investment in the Fund's Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire amount that you invest. Your investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Fund, substantially all of which are traded on a national securities exchange or in the over-the-counter markets. The value of these securities, like other market investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. The value of the securities in which the Fund invests will affect the value of the Common Shares. Your Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than your original investment, even after taking into account the reinvestment of Fund dividends and distributions.

The Fund's performance was adversely impacted by the weakness in the credit markets and broad stock market, and the resulting rapid and dramatic declines in the value of MLPs that occurred beginning in late 2008, and may again be adversely affected due to weaknesses in the credit and stock markets. If the Fund's net asset value declines or remains volatile, there is an increased risk that the Fund may be required to reduce outstanding leverage, which could adversely affect the price of the

Fund's common shares and ability to pay distributions at historical levels. A sustained economic slowdown may adversely affect the ability of MLPs to sustain their historical distribution levels, which in turn, may adversely affect the Fund's ability to sustain distributions at historical levels. MLPs that have historically relied heavily on outside capital to fund their growth have been impacted by the slowdown in the capital markets. The recovery of the MLP sector is dependent on several factors, including the recovery of the financial sector, the general economy and the commodity markets.

In response to the financial crises affecting the banking system and financial markets, the U.S. and foreign governments have intervened to an unprecedented degree in the financial and credit markets. Among other things, U.S. government regulators have encouraged, and in some cases structured and provided financial assistance for, banks, securities firms, insurers and other financial companies. Additional intervention programs have been adopted and proposed which will have a further impact on the securities markets.

Many of the recently enacted or proposed government measures are far-reaching and without historical precedent. Furthermore, the U.S. government has stated its willingness to implement additional measures as it may see fit to address changes in market conditions. There can be no assurance that any or all of these measures will succeed in stabilizing and providing liquidity to the U.S. financial markets, including the extreme levels of volatility recently experienced. Such volatility could materially and adversely affect the financial condition of the Fund, the performance of the Fund's investments and the trading price of the Fund's common shares.

Market Impact Risk. The sale of the Common Shares (or the perception that such sales may occur) may have an

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adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for the Fund's common shares by increasing the number of shares available, which may put downward pressure on the market price for the Fund's common shares. These sales also might make it more difficult for the Fund to sell additional equity securities in the future at a time and price the Fund deems appropriate.

Management Risk. The Fund is subject to management risk because it is an actively managed portfolio. The Advisor and Sub-Advisor apply investment techniques and risk analyses in making investment decisions for the Fund, but there can be no guarantee that these will produce the desired results.

Potential Conflicts of Interest Risk. First Trust

Advisors, Energy Income Partners and the portfolio managers have interests which may conflict with the interests of the Fund. In particular, First Trust Advisors and Energy Income Partners may manage and/or advise other investment funds or accounts with the same investment objective and strategies as the Fund. As a result, First Trust Advisors, Energy Income Partners and the Fund's portfolio managers may devote unequal time and attention to the management of the Fund and those other funds and accounts, and may not be able to formulate as complete a strategy or identify equally attractive investment opportunities as might be the case if they were to devote substantially more attention to the management of the Fund. First Trust Advisors, Energy Income Partners and the Fund's portfolio managers may identify a limited investment opportunity that may be suitable for multiple funds and accounts, and the opportunity may be allocated among these several funds and accounts, which may limit the Fund's ability to take full advantage of the investment opportunity. Additionally, transaction orders may be aggregated for multiple accounts for purpose of execution, which may cause the price or brokerage costs to be less favorable to the Fund than if similar transactions were not being executed concurrently for other accounts. At times, a portfolio manager may determine that an investment opportunity may be appropriate for only some of the funds and accounts for which he or she exercises investment responsibility, or may decide that certain of the funds and accounts should take differing positions with respect to a particular security. In these cases, the portfolio manager may place separate transactions for one or more funds or accounts which may affect the market price of the security or the execution of the transaction, or both, to the detriment or benefit of one or more other funds and accounts. For example, a portfolio manager may determine that it would be in the interest of another account to sell a security that the Fund holds, potentially resulting in a decrease in the market value of the security held by the Fund.

The portfolio managers may also engage in cross trades between funds and accounts, may select brokers or dealers to execute securities transactions based in part on brokerage and research services provided to First Trust Advisors or Energy Income Partners which may not benefit all funds and accounts equally and may receive different amounts of financial or other benefits for managing different funds and accounts. Finally, First Trust Advisors or its affiliates may provide more services to some types of funds and accounts than others.

There is no guarantee that the policies and procedures adopted by First Trust Advisors, Energy Income Partners and the Fund will be able to identify or mitigate the conflicts of interest that arise between the Fund and any other investment funds or accounts that First Trust Advisors and/or Energy Income Partners may manage or advise from time to time. For further information on potential conflicts of interest, see "Investment Advisor" and "Sub-Advisor" in the SAI.

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Energy Sector Risk. The Fund's investments are generally concentrated in the energy sector, with a particular concentration in energy sector MLPs and energy sector MLP-related entities. Certain risks inherent in investing in the energy business of these types of securities include the following:

- o Commodity Pricing Risk. MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies may be directly affected by energy commodity prices, especially those MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies which own the underlying energy commodity. Commodity prices fluctuate for several reasons, including changes in market and economic conditions, the impact of weather on demand, levels of domestic production and imported commodities, energy conservation, domestic and foreign governmental regulation and taxation and the availability of local, intrastate and interstate transportation systems. Volatility of commodity prices which leads to a reduction in production or supply may also impact the performance of MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies that are solely involved in the transportation, processing, storing, distribution or marketing of commodities. Volatility of commodity prices may also make it more difficult for MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies to raise capital to the extent the market perceives that their performance may be directly tied to commodity prices.
- o Supply and Demand Risk. A decrease in the production of natural gas, NGLs, crude oil, coal or other energy commodities or a decrease in the volume of such commodities available for transportation, processing, storage or distribution may adversely impact the financial performance of MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies. Production declines and volume decreases could be caused by various factors, including catastrophic events affecting production, depletion of resources, labor difficulties, environmental proceedings, increased regulations, equipment failures and unexpected maintenance problems, import supply disruption, increased competition from alternative energy sources or depressed commodity prices. Alternatively, a sustained decline in demand for such commodities could also impact the financial performance of MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies. Factors which could lead to a decline in demand include economic recession or other adverse economic conditions, higher fuel taxes or governmental regulations, increases in fuel economy, consumer shifts to the use of alternative fuel sources, an increase in commodity prices, or weather. A continuation of reduced demand for energy commodities as a result of the economic recession

may further reduce the financial performance of the entities in which the Fund invests.

- o Depletion and Exploration Risk. MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies engaged in the production (exploration, development, management or production) of natural gas, NGLs (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products or coal are subject to the risk that their commodity reserves naturally deplete over time. MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies generally increase reserves through expansion of their existing business, through exploration of new sources or development of existing sources, through acquisitions or by securing long-term contracts to acquire additional reserves, each of which entails risk. The financial performance of these issuers may be adversely affected if they are unable to acquire, cost-effectively, additional reserves at a rate at least equal to the rate of natural decline. A failure to maintain or increase reserves could

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reduce the amount and change the characterization of cash distributions paid by these MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies.

- o Regulatory Risk. MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies are subject to significant federal, state and local government regulation in virtually every aspect of their operations, including how facilities are constructed, maintained and operated, environmental and safety controls, and the prices they may charge for products and services. Various governmental authorities have the power to enforce compliance with these regulations and the permits issued under them and violators are subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties, including civil fines, injunctions or both. Stricter laws, regulations or enforcement policies could be enacted in the future which would likely increase compliance costs and may adversely affect the financial performance of MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies. In particular, changes to laws and increased regulations or enforcement policies as a result of oil spills, such as the Macondo oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico or onshore oil pipeline spills may adversely affect the financial performance of MLPs and other energy companies. Additionally, changes to laws and increased regulation or restrictions to the use of hydraulic fracturing may adversely impact the ability of energy companies to economically develop oil and natural gas resources and, in turn, reduce production for such commodities and adversely impact the financial performance of MLPs and midstream energy companies.

- o Interest Rate Risk. Rising interest rates could adversely impact the financial performance of MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies. Rising interest rates may increase an MLP's, MLP-related entity's or energy company's cost of capital, which would increase operating costs and may reduce an MLP's, MLP-related entity's or energy company's ability to execute acquisitions or expansion projects in a cost-effective manner. Rising interest rates may also impact the price of MLP units, MLP-related entity securities and energy company shares as the yields on alternative investments increase.

- o Acquisition or Reinvestment Risk. The ability of MLPs to grow and to increase distributions to unitholders is dependent in part on their ability to make acquisitions or find organic projects that result in an increase in adjusted operating surplus per unit. In the event that MLPs are unable to make such accretive acquisitions/projects either because they are unable to identify attractive acquisition/project candidates or negotiate acceptable purchase contracts or because they are unable to raise financing on economically acceptable terms or because they are outbid by competitors, their future growth and ability to raise distributions may be hindered. Furthermore, even if MLPs do consummate acquisitions/projects that they believe will be accretive, the acquisitions/projects may in fact turn out to result in a decrease in adjusted operating surplus per unit. As MLP general partners typically receive a greater percentage of increased cash distributions, in an effort to increase cash distributions the general partner may make acquisitions which, due to various factors, including increased debt obligations as well as the factors set forth below, may adversely affect the MLP. Any acquisition/project involves risks, including among other things: mistaken assumptions about revenues and costs, including synergies; the assumption of unknown liabilities; limitations on rights to indemnity from the seller; the diversion of management's attention from other business concerns; unforeseen difficulties operating in new

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product areas or new geographic areas; and customer or key employee losses at the acquired businesses.

- o Affiliated Party Risk. A few of the midstream MLPs are dependent on their parents or sponsors for a majority of their revenues. Any failure by the parents or sponsors to satisfy their payments or obligations would impact the MLPs' revenues and cash flows and ability to make distributions.

- o Catastrophe Risk. The operations of MLPs,

MLP-related entities and energy companies are subject to many hazards inherent in transporting, processing, storing, distributing or marketing natural gas, NGLs, crude oil, refined petroleum products or other hydrocarbons, or in exploring, managing or producing such commodities or products, including: damage to pipelines, storage tanks or related equipment and surrounding properties caused by hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, fires and other natural disasters and acts of terrorism; inadvertent damage from construction and farm equipment; leaks of natural gas, NGLs, crude oil, refined petroleum products or other hydrocarbons; fires and explosions. These risks could result in substantial losses due to personal injury and/or loss of life, severe damage to and destruction of property and equipment and pollution or other environmental damage and may result in the curtailment or suspension of their related operations. Not all MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies are fully insured against all risks inherent to their businesses. If a significant accident or event occurs that is not fully insured, it could adversely affect their operations and financial condition.

- o Terrorism/Market Disruption Risk. The terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001 had a disruptive effect on the securities markets. U.S. military and related action in Iraq is ongoing and events in the Middle East could have significant adverse effects on the U.S. economy and the stock market. Uncertainty surrounding retaliatory military strikes or a sustained military campaign may affect energy company operations in unpredictable ways, including disruptions of fuel supplies and markets, and transmission and distribution facilities could be direct targets, or indirect casualties, of an act of terror. Since the September 11th attacks, the U.S. government has issued warnings that energy assets, specifically the U.S. pipeline infrastructure, may be the future target of terrorist organizations. In addition, changes in the insurance markets attributable to the September 11th attacks have made certain types of insurance more difficult, if not impossible, to obtain and have generally resulted in increased premium costs.
- o MLP Risks. An investment in MLP units involves risks which differ from an investment in common stock of a corporation. Holders of MLP units have limited control and voting rights on matters affecting the partnership. In addition, there are certain tax risks associated with an investment in MLP units and conflicts of interest exist between common unit holders and the general partner, including those arising from incentive distribution payments.
- o Industry Specific Risk. MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies are also subject to risks that are specific to the industry they serve.
- o Midstream MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy

companies that provide crude oil, refined product and natural gas services are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve which will be impacted by a wide range of factors including, fluctuating commodity prices, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel

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sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, declines in domestic or foreign production, accidents or catastrophic events, and economic conditions, among others.

- o Propane MLPs and MLP-related entities are subject to earnings variability based upon weather conditions in the markets they serve, fluctuating commodity prices, increased use of alternative fuels, increased governmental or environmental regulation, and accidents or catastrophic events, among others.
- o MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies with coal assets are subject to supply and demand fluctuations in the markets they serve which will be impacted by a wide range of factors including, fluctuating commodity prices, the level of their customers' coal stockpiles, weather, increased conservation or use of alternative fuel sources, increased governmental or environmental regulation, depletion, rising interest rates, transportation issues, declines in domestic or foreign production, mining accidents or catastrophic events, health claims and economic conditions, among others.

Cash Flow Risk. A substantial portion of the cash flow received by the Fund is derived from its investment in equity securities of MLPs and MLP-related entities. The amount of cash an MLP or MLP-related entity has available for distributions and the tax character of such distributions is dependent upon the amount of cash generated by the MLP's or MLP-related entity's operations. Cash available for distribution varies from quarter to quarter and is largely dependent on factors affecting the MLP's or MLP-related entity's operations and factors affecting the energy industry in general. In addition to the risk factors described above, other factors which may reduce the amount of cash an MLP or MLP-related entity has available for distribution include increased operating costs, capital expenditures, acquisition costs, expansion, construction or exploration costs and borrowing costs.

Tax Risk. The Fund's ability to meet its investment objective depends on the level of taxable income and distributions it receives from the MLP, MLP-related entities and energy company securities in which the Fund invests, a factor over which the Fund has no control. The benefit the Fund derives from its investment in MLPs

is largely dependent on their being treated as partnerships for federal income tax purposes. As a partnership, an MLP has no income tax liability at the entity level. If, as a result of a change in an MLP's business, an MLP were treated as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, such MLP would be obligated to pay federal income tax on its income at the applicable corporate tax rate. If an MLP was classified as a corporation for federal income tax purposes, the amount of cash available for distribution with respect to its units would be reduced and any such distributions received by the Fund would be taxed entirely as dividend income if paid out of the earnings of the MLP. Therefore, treatment of an MLP as a corporation for federal income tax purposes would result in a material reduction in the after-tax return to the Fund, likely causing a substantial reduction in the value of the common shares.

Tax Law Change Risk. Changes in tax laws or regulations, or interpretations thereof in the future, could adversely affect the Fund or the MLPs in which it invests. Any such changes could negatively impact the Fund and its common shareholders. For example, if, by reason of a change in law or otherwise, an MLP in which the Fund invests is treated as a corporation rather than a partnership, the MLP would be subject to entity level

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corporate taxation and any distributions received by the Fund would be treated as dividend income. This would negatively impact the amount and tax characterization of distributions received by common shareholders.

Deferred Tax Risk. As a limited partner in the MLPs in which it invests, the Fund is allocated its pro rata share of income, gains, losses, deductions and expenses from the MLPs. A significant portion of MLP income has historically been offset by tax deductions. The Fund will incur a current tax liability on that portion of a distribution that is not offset by tax deductions, with the remaining portion of the distribution being treated as a tax-deferred return of capital. The percentage of an MLP's distribution which is offset by tax deductions will fluctuate over time for various reasons. A significant slowdown in acquisition or investment activity by MLPs held in the Fund's portfolio could result in a reduction of accelerated depreciation or other deductions generated by these activities, which may result in increased current tax liability to the Fund. A reduction in the percentage of the income from an MLP offset by tax deductions or gains as a result of the sale of portfolio securities will reduce that portion, if any, of the Fund's distribution treated as a tax-deferred return of capital and increase that portion treated as dividend income, resulting in reduced Fund distributions and lower after-tax distributions to the Fund's common shareholders. For purposes of computing

net asset value, the Fund will accrue deferred income taxes for its future tax liability associated with that portion of MLP distributions considered to be tax-deferred return of capital as well as capital appreciation of its investments. The Fund will rely to some extent on information provided by MLPs, which is usually not timely, to estimate deferred tax liability for purposes of financial statement reporting and determining the Fund's net asset value. From time to time the Fund will modify its estimates and/or assumptions regarding its deferred tax liability as new information becomes available.

Delay in Investing the Proceeds of this Offering. Although the Fund currently intends to invest the proceeds from any sale of the Common Shares as soon as practicable following the completion of such offering, such investments may be delayed if suitable investments are unavailable at the time. The trading market and volumes for MLP, MLP-related entity and energy company shares may at times be less liquid than the market for other securities. Prior to the time the proceeds of any offering are invested, such proceeds may be invested in cash, cash equivalents or other securities, pending investment in MLP, MLP-related entity or energy company securities. Income received by the Fund from these securities would subject the Fund to corporate tax before any distributions to Common Shareholders. As a result, the return and yield on the Common Shares in the year following any offering pursuant to this prospectus and an applicable prospectus supplement may be lower than when the Fund is fully invested in accordance with its objective and policies. See "Use of Proceeds."

Equity Securities Risk. MLP units and other equity securities are sensitive to general movements in the stock market and a drop in the stock market may depress the price of securities to which the Fund has exposure. MLP units and other equity securities prices fluctuate for several reasons including changes in the financial condition of a particular issuer (generally measured in terms of distributable cash flow in the case of MLPs), investors' perceptions of MLPs and energy companies, the general condition of the relevant stock market, such as the current market volatility, or when political or economic events affecting the issuers occur. In addition, the price of MLP units and other equity

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securities may be particularly sensitive to rising interest rates, as the cost of capital rises and borrowing costs increase.

Certain of the energy companies in which the Fund invests and may in the future invest may have comparatively smaller capitalizations. Investing in securities of smaller MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies presents some unique investment risks.

These companies may have limited product lines and markets, as well as shorter operating histories, less experienced management and more limited financial resources than larger MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies and may be more vulnerable to adverse general market or economic developments. Stocks of smaller MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies may be less liquid than those of larger MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies and may experience greater price fluctuations than larger MLPs, MLP-related entities and energy companies. In addition, small-cap securities may not be widely followed by the investment community, which may result in reduced demand.

MLP subordinated units in which the Fund invests and may in the future invest generally convert to common units at a one-to-one ratio. The purchase or sale price is generally tied to the common unit price less a discount. The size of the discount varies depending on the likelihood of conversion, the length of time remaining to conversion, the size of the block purchased and other factors.

The Fund invests, and may in the future invest, in I-Shares which represent an indirect investment in MLP i-units. While not precise, the price of I-Shares and their volatility tend to be correlated to the price of common units. I-Shares are subject to the same risks as MLP common units.

Private Investment in a Public Entity ("PIPE") Transaction Risk. PIPE investors purchase securities directly from publicly traded company in a private placement transaction, typically at a discount to the market price of the company's common stock. Because the sale of the securities is not registered under the 1933 Act, the securities are "restricted" and cannot be immediately resold by the investors into the public markets. Until the Fund can sell such securities into the public markets, the Funds holdings, if any, will be less liquid and any sale will need to be made pursuant to an exemption under the 1933 Act.

Leverage Risk. The Fund currently utilizes leverage in the form of Borrowings under the Commitment Facility, and may in the future use additional leverage for investment purposes, to finance the repurchase of its common shares, and to meet cash requirements. Although the use of leverage by the Fund creates an opportunity for increased return for the common shares, it also results in additional risks and can magnify the effect of any losses. If the income and gains earned on the securities and investments purchased with leverage proceeds are greater than the cost of the leverage, the common shares' return will be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the income or gains from the securities and investments purchased with such proceeds does not cover the cost of leverage, the return to the common shares will be less than if leverage had not been used. There is no assurance that a leveraging strategy will be successful. In addition, certain types

of leverage may result in the Fund being subject to covenants relating to asset coverage and the Fund's portfolio composition and may impose special restrictions on the Fund's use of various investment techniques or strategies or in its ability to pay dividends and other distributions on common shares in certain instances. Under the Commitment Facility, the Fund is also required to pledge assets to the lenders. Leverage involves risks and special considerations for common shareholders including:

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- o the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and market price of the common shares than a comparable portfolio without leverage;
- o the risk that fluctuations in interest rates on borrowings and short-term debt or in the dividend rates on any Preferred Shares that the Fund may pay will reduce the return to the common shareholders or will result in fluctuations in the distributions paid on the common shares;
- o the effect of leverage in a declining market, which is likely to cause a greater decline in the net asset value of the common shares than if the Fund were not leveraged, which may result in a greater decline in the market price of the common shares; and
- o when the Fund uses leverage, the investment advisory fee payable to the Advisor, and the sub-advisory fee payable by the Advisor to the Sub-Advisor, will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage.

The issuance of Leverage Instruments by the Fund, in addition to Borrowings under the Commitment Facility, involve offering expenses and other costs, including interest or dividend payments, which would be borne indirectly by the common shareholders. Increased operating costs, including the financing cost associated with any leverage, may reduce the Fund's total return.

Certain types of Borrowings may result in the Fund being subject to covenants in credit agreements relating to asset coverage and portfolio composition requirements. The Fund may be subject to certain restrictions on investments imposed by guidelines of one or more rating agencies, which may issue ratings for the short-term corporate debt securities or Preferred Shares issued by the Fund. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed by the 1940 Act. In addition, the loan documents under the Commitment Facility include customary provisions including a restriction on the Fund's ability to pledge its assets and contains customary events of default including failure of the Fund to meet the asset coverage test of

the 1940 Act. There is no assurance that the Fund will not violate financial covenants relating to the Commitment Facility or other Financial Leverage in the future. In such event, the Fund may be required to repay all outstanding Borrowings immediately. In order to repay such amounts the Fund may be required to sell assets quickly which could have a material adverse effect on the Fund and could trigger negative tax implications. In addition, the Fund would be precluded from declaring or paying any distribution on the common shares during the continuance of such event of default.

It is possible that the Fund will be unable to obtain additional leverage. If the Fund is unable to increase Financial Leverage after the issuance of additional Common Shares, there could be an adverse impact on the return to common shareholders.

Derivatives Risk. The Fund's Strategic Transactions have risks, including the imperfect correlation between the value of such instruments and the underlying assets of the Fund, the possible default of the other party to the transaction or illiquidity of the derivative investments. Furthermore, the ability to successfully use hedging and interest rate transactions depends on the Sub-Advisor's ability to predict pertinent market movements, which cannot be assured. Thus, the use of derivatives for hedging and interest rate management purposes may result in losses greater than if they had not been used, may require the Fund to sell or purchase portfolio securities at inopportune times or for prices other than current market values, may limit the amount of appreciation the Fund can realize on an investment,

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or may cause the Fund to hold a security that it might otherwise sell. Additionally, amounts paid by the Fund as premiums and cash or other assets held in margin accounts with respect to hedging and strategic transactions are not otherwise available to the Fund for investment purposes. As the writer of a covered call option, the Fund forgoes, during the option's life, the opportunity to profit from increases in the market value of the security covering the call option above the sum of the premium and the strike price of the call, but has retained the risk of loss should the price of the underlying security decline. The writer of an option has no control over the time when it may be required to fulfill its obligation as a writer of the option. Once an option writer has received an exercise notice, it cannot effect a closing purchase transaction in order to terminate its obligation under the option and must deliver the underlying security at the exercise price. See "Risks -- Derivatives Risk."

Portfolio Turnover Risk. The Fund's annual portfolio turnover rate may vary greatly from year to year. Although the Fund cannot accurately predict its annual

portfolio turnover rate, it is not expected to exceed 30% under normal circumstances, but may be higher or lower in certain periods. For the fiscal year ended November 30, 2011, portfolio turnover was approximately 16%. Portfolio turnover rate is not considered a limiting factor in the execution of investment decisions for the Fund. High portfolio turnover may result in the Fund's recognition of gains that will be taxable as ordinary income to the Fund. A high portfolio turnover may increase the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, resulting in a greater portion of the Fund's distributions being treated as a dividend to the Fund's common shareholders. In addition, a higher portfolio turnover rate results in correspondingly greater brokerage commissions and other transactional expenses that are borne by the Fund. See "The Fund's Investments-- Investment Practices -- Portfolio Turnover" and "Tax Matters."

Restricted Securities. The Fund invests, and may in the future invest, in unregistered or otherwise restricted securities. The term "restricted securities" refers to securities that have not been registered under the 1933 Act or are held by control persons of the issuer and securities that are subject to contractual restrictions on their resale. As a result, restricted securities may be more difficult to value and the Fund may have difficulty disposing of such assets either in a timely manner or for a reasonable price. Absent an exemption from registration, the Fund will be required to hold the securities until they are registered by the issuer. In order to dispose of an unregistered security, the Fund, where it has contractual rights to do so, may have to cause such security to be registered. A considerable period may elapse between the time the decision is made to sell the security and the time the security is registered so that the Fund could sell it. Contractual restrictions on the resale of securities vary in length and scope and are generally the result of a negotiation between the issuer and acquirer of the securities. The Fund would, in either case, bear market risks during that period.

Liquidity Risk. Although common units of MLPs, I-Shares of MLP-related entities, and common stock of certain energy companies trade on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE"), NYSE Amex, and The NASDAQ Stock Market, certain securities may trade less frequently, particularly those of issuers with smaller capitalizations. Securities with limited trading volumes may display volatile or erratic price movements. Larger purchases or sales of these securities by the Fund in a short period of time may result in abnormal movements in the market price of these securities. This may affect the timing or size of Fund transactions and may limit the Fund's ability to make alternative investments. If the Fund requires significant amounts of cash on short

notice in excess of normal cash requirements or is required to post or return collateral in connection with the Fund's investment portfolio, derivatives transactions or leverage restrictions, the Fund may have difficulty selling these investments in a timely manner, be forced to sell them for less than it otherwise would have been able to realize, or both. The reported value of some of the Fund's relatively illiquid types of investments and, at times, the Fund's high quality, generally liquid asset classes, may not necessarily reflect the lowest current market price for the asset. If the Fund was forced to sell certain of its assets in the current market, there can be no assurance that the Fund will be able to sell them for the prices at which the Fund has recorded them and the Fund may be forced t