

# CEFA'S GUIDE TO ANALYZING A CLOSED-END FUND

**Intermediate CEF Skill Level** 

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## Today's Goal?

How does CEFA Analyze a closed-end fund for our client portfolios?

What are the factors that lead us to mark a fund as a potential: **Buy, Hold or Sell?** 

- What are our Level 1 (Primary) Research Factors?
- What are our Level 2 (Secondary) Research Factors?

**Reminder:** This presentation is for educational purposes only and does not constitute investment advice or any buy or sell recommendations.

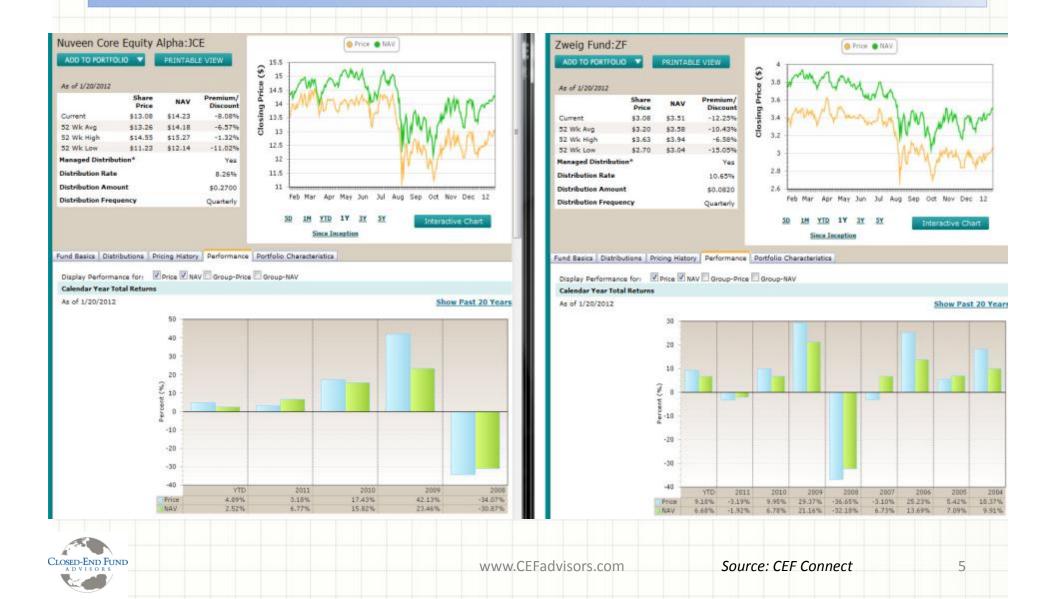


### Level 1 Factors

- ☐ Our Interest in the Sector or Asset Class
  - Where he fund fits into one or more of our portfolio models.
- **□** NAV Performance
  - Compared to Peers & Index
- **☐** Sustainable Dividends
  - Risk of a cut & likelihood of an increase
- ☐ Entry Point Risk (market price)
  - Value investing, good funds cheap or 'beat up'
- ☐ Historical & Current Peer Review



## **NAV Performance Comparison**



## Sustainable Dividends

### **Equity Funds**

- ☐ Source of Dividends?
  - Dividend Income
  - Short-Term / Long-Term Capital Gains
- ☐ Return of Capital
  - Constructive
  - Pass Through Accounting
  - Destructive (Return of Principal)

### **Bond Funds**

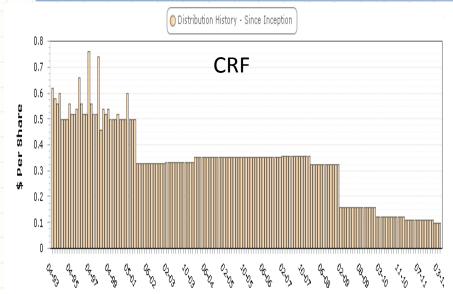
- ☐ Dividend Coverage (Earnings per share / dividend amount)
- ☐ Relative UNII (Undistributed Net Investment Income)
- ☐ Interest Rate Sensitivity
- ☐ Default/Credit Risk
  - Type of Bonds in Portfolio

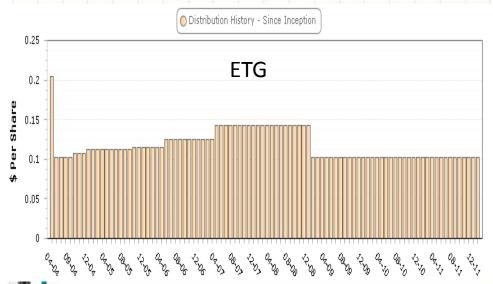




## **Equity Fund Dividend Sustainability**

### **CRF vs ETG**





#### Distribution History

Enter declared start and end dates to display distribution history below. Income. Long Gain, Short Gain and ROC breakdowns will only be shown for the past year.

Display History 1/23/2011	to 1/23/2012	-
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Declared Date	Payable Date	Ex Date	Distrib Amount	Income	Long Gain	Short Gain	ROC
11/4/2011	3/30/2012	3/13/2012	\$0.0976	0	0	0	\$0.0976
11/4/2011	2/29/2012	2/13/2012	\$0.0976	0	0	0	\$0.0976
11/4/2011	1/31/2012	1/11/2012	\$0.0976	0	0	0	\$0.0976
8/12/2011	12/30/2011	12/13/2011	\$0.1112	0	0	0	\$0.1112
8/12/2011	11/30/2011	11/13/2011	\$0.1112	. 0	0	0	\$0.1112
8/12/2011	10/31/2011	10/12/2011	\$0.1112	. 0	0	0	\$0.1112
5/9/2011	9/30/2011	9/13/2011	\$0.1112	0	0	0	\$0.1112
5/9/2011	8/31/2011	8/12/2011	\$0,1112	0	0	0	\$0.1112
5/9/2011	7/29/2011	7/13/2011	\$0.1112	0	0	0	\$0.1112
2/11/2011	6/30/2011	6/13/2011	\$0.1112	0	0	0	\$0.1112
2/11/2011	5/31/2011	5/11/2011	\$0.1112	0	0	0	\$0.1112
2/11/2011	4/29/2011	4/13/2011	\$0.1112	. 0	0	0	\$0.1112

Key Information Regarding Distrib	utions
Current Distribution (Monthly):	

Current Distribution (Monthly): (As of 1/20/2012) 50.0976

Avg. Earnings Per Share: (As of 6/30/2011) 50.0033

Annualized Distribution Rate on NAV: (As of 1/20/2012) 20.95%

(As of 1/20/2012) 4.95%

Total Return on NAV (12 months): (As of 1/20/2012) 4.95%

Total % Portfolio Leveraged: (As of 1/20/2012) 4.95%

#### **Estimated Components of Distributions**

These percentages are as of the last calendar year. Early in the year, until the prior year's audited breakdowns are available, these will be estimated values. Ordinary Income:

Ordinary Income: Long term Capital Gain:

Short term Capital Gain: Return of Capital:

rn of Capitali 100-00%

#### Distribution History

Enter declared start and end dates to display distribution history below. Income, Long Gain, Short Gain and ROC breakdowns will only be shown for the past year.

Display History 1/23/2011 | to 1/23/2012 | |

2/9/2011 2/28/2011 2/16/2011 \$0.1025 \$0.1025

Declared Date	Payable Date	Ex Date	Distrib Amount	Income	Long Gain	Short Gain	ROC
12/20/2011	1/11/2012	12/28/2011	\$0.1025	\$0.1025	0	. 0	
12/13/2011	12/30/2011	12/21/2011	\$0.1025	\$0.1025	0	0	
11/11/2011	11/30/2011	11/21/2011	\$0.1025	\$0,1025	0	0	
10/14/2011	10/31/2011	10/20/2011	\$0.1025	\$0.1025	0	0	
9/13/2011	9/30/2011	9/21/2011	\$0.1025	\$0,1025	0	0	
8/12/2011	8/31/2011	8/22/2011	\$0.1025	\$0.1025	0	. 0	
7/12/2011	7/29/2011	7/20/2011	\$0-1025	\$0,1025	0	0	
6/14/2011	6/30/2011	6/21/2011	\$0.1025	\$0.1025	0	0	
5/13/2011	5/31/2011	5/20/2011	\$0.1025	\$0,1025	. 0	0	
4/12/2011	4/29/2011	4/19/2011	\$0.1025	\$0.1025	. 0	. 0	
3/15/2011	3/31/2011	3/22/2011	\$0.1025	\$0,1025	0	0	

Current Distribution (Monthly): (As of 1/20/2012)	\$0.1025
Avg. Earnings Per Shares (As of 10/31/2011)	\$0.1268
Annualized Distribution Rate on NAV: (As of 1/20/2012)	8,46%
Total Return on NAV (12 months): (As of 1/20/2012)	2.35%
Avg. UNII Per Share: (As of 10/31/2011)	\$0.1146
Total % Portfolio Leveraged: (As of 1/20/2012)	27.71%

#### **Estimated Components of Distributions**

These percentages are as of the last calendar year. Early in the year, until the prior year's audited breakdowns are available, these will be estimated values.

Ordinary Income: Long term Capital Gains

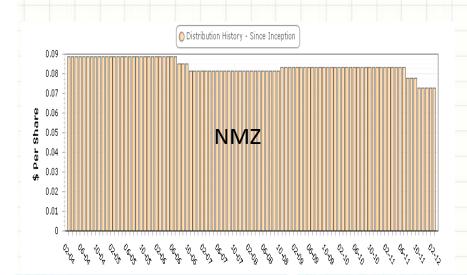
Short term Capital Gains Return of Capital:

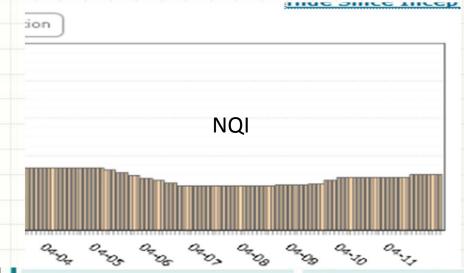
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## Muni Bond Fund Dividend Sustainability

NMZ vs. NQI





#### **Distribution History**

Minter Managers 2 to Japanese 2

Enter declared start and end dates to display distribution history below. Income. Long Gain, Short Gain and ROC breakdowns will only be shown for the past year.

Display His	tory 1/23/2011	to 1/2	3/2012	40			
Declared Date	Payable Date	Ex Date	Distrib Amount	Income	Long Gain	Short Gain	ROC
1/3/2012	2/1/2012	1/11/2012	\$0.0730	\$0.0730	. 0	0	
12/1/2011	12/30/2011	12/13/2011	\$0.0231	\$0,0231	0	0	
12/1/2011	12/30/2011	12/13/2011	\$0.0730	\$0.0730	0	0	
11/1/2011	12/1/2011	11/10/2011	\$0.0730	\$0.0730	0	.0	
10/3/2011	11/1/2011	10/12/2011	\$0.0730	\$0.0730	0	0	
9/1/2011	10/3/2011	9/13/2011	\$0.0730	\$0.0730	0	0	
8/1/2011	9/1/2011	8/11/2011	\$0.0780	\$0.0780	0	0	
7/1/2011	8/1/2011	7/13/2011	\$0.0780	\$0.0780	0	0	
6/1/2011	7/1/2011	6/13/2011	\$0.0780	\$0.0780	0	0	
5/2/2011	6/1/2011	5/11/2011	\$0.0835	\$0.0835	0	. 0	
4/1/2011	5/2/2011	4/13/2011	\$0.0835	\$0,0835	0	0	
3/1/2011	4/1/2011	3/11/2011	\$0.0835	\$0.0835	0	0	
9/1/9011	3/1/2011	2/11/2011	40.0835	60.0835		0.	

Key	Information	Regarding	Distributions
Contract	on Personal house	on frencht	A.

Current Distribution (Monthly): (As of 1/20/2012)	\$0.0730
Avg. Earnings Per Share: (As of 12/31/2011)	\$0.0778
Annualized Distribution Rate on NAV: (As of 1/20/2012)	7.21%
Total Return on NAV (12 months): (As of 1/20/2012)	29.64%
Avg. UNII Per Share: (As of 12/31/2011)	-\$0.0145
Avg. Portfolio Couponi (As of 1/20/2012)	7,74%
Total % Portfolio Leveraged: (As of 1/20/2012)	47.73%

#### **Estimated Components of Distributions**

These percentages are as of the last calendar year. Early in the year, until the prior year's audited breakdowns are available, these will be estimated values.

Ordinary Income: Long term Capital Gain: Short term Capital Gain:

Return of Capitals

Enter declared start and end dates to display distribution history below. Income, Long Gain. Short Gain and ROC breakdowns will only be shown for the past year.

Display History 1/23/2011 10 to 1/23/2012

Declared Date	Payable Date	Ex	Distrib Amount	Income	Long Gain	Short Gain	ROC
1/3/2012	2/1/2012	1/11/2012	\$0.0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
12/1/2011	12/30/2011	12/13/2011	\$0.0026	\$0.0026	0	0	
12/1/2011	12/30/2011	12/13/2011	\$0.0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
11/1/2011	12/1/2011	11/10/2011	\$0.0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
10/3/2011	11/1/2011	10/12/2011	\$0.0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
9/1/2011	10/3/2011	9/13/2011	\$0.0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
8/1/2011	9/1/2011	8/11/2011	\$0.0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
7/1/2011	8/1/2011	7/13/2011	\$0,0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
6/1/2011	7/1/2011	6/13/2011	\$0.0750	\$0.0750	0	0	
5/2/2011	6/1/2011	5/11/2011	\$0.0710	\$0.0710	0	0	
4/1/2011	5/2/2011	4/13/2011	\$0,0710	\$0.0710	0	0	
3/1/2011	4/1/2011	3/11/2011	\$0.0710	\$0.0710	0	0	
2/1/2011	3/1/2011	2/11/2011	\$0.0710	\$0.0710	0	0	

#### **Key Information Regarding Distributions**

Current Distribution (Monthly): (As of 1/20/2012)	\$0.0750
Avg. Earnings Per Share: (As of 12/31/2011)	\$0.0670
Annualized Distribution Rate on NAV: (As of 1/20/2012)	6.06%
Total Return on NAV (12 months): (As of 1/20/2012)	26-61%
Avg. UNII Per Share: (As of 12/31/2011)	\$0.1598
Avg. Portfolio Couponi (As of 1/20/2012)	4.45%
Total % Portfolio Leveraged: (As of 1/20/2012)	40.31%

#### **Estimated Components of Distributions**

These percentages are as of the last calendar year. Early in the year, until the prior year's audited breakdowns are available, these will be

Ordinary Income: Long term Capital Gain:

Short term Capital Gain: Return of Capitali



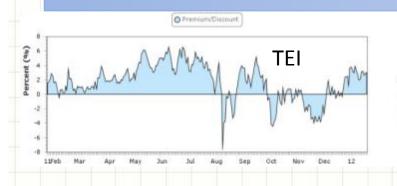
www.CEFadvisors.com

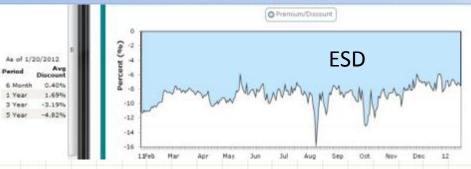
Source: CEF Connect

100.00%

## **Entry Point Evaluation**

TEI vs ESD





Current Disc / Prem: +3.05%

Relative Disc / Prem: +2.77%

1 Year Z-Stat: +0.52

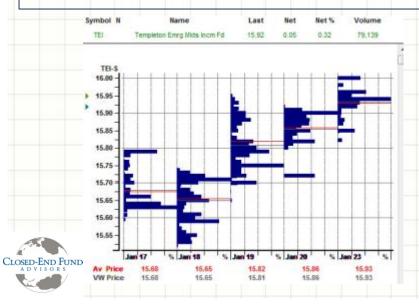
52 Week Relative Price: 45%

Current Disc / Prem: -7.52%

Relative Disc / Prem: +0.16%

1 Year Z-Stat: ) +0.91%

52 Week Relative Price: 79%





## What is Important to You?

### Top 5 Covered Call Equity Funds By:

### **Discount**

1. ETW: -15.00%

2. ETY: -14.70%

3. ETJ: -14.62%

4. EXG: - 14.31%

5. MSP: -14.25%

### **Yield**

1. BOE: 15.79%

2. NAI: 15.31%

3. EXG: 13.01%

4. ETY: 12.40%

5. IGD: 12.18%

### **Market Cap**

1. EXG: \$2.67B

2. NFJ: \$1.62B

3. ETY: \$1.42B

4. ETW: \$1.15B

5. BOE: \$1.00B

### OR...

### **Net Asset Value 1 Year Total Return**

1. DPO: +12.65%

2. DPD: +9.50%

3. ETV: +8.73%

4. ETB: +8.65%

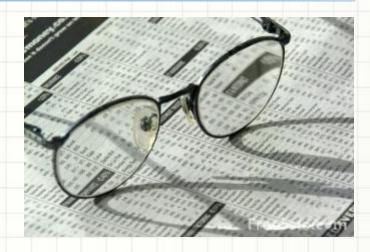
5. CII: +8.65%



Source: CEF Connect

### **Level 2 Factors**

- ➤ Net Asset Value (NAV) Trend
  - ☐ Compared to Peers / Market
- > NAV / Market Price Divergence
  - ☐ Good Reason?
- > Potential Dividend Growth
  - ☐ Sector Outlook?
  - ☐ UNII Cushion?
  - ☐ Over Earning it's Dividend?
- ➤ **Discussion Boards** What are people saying?
  - Morningstar
  - ☐ LinkedIN ... (CEF-Network.com)
- Changes in Trading Volume
- > Expense Ratio / Leverage Details
- Potential for an Open-Ending /Liquidation



### Reasons We Sell a CEF

- ➤ Changes in Market or Economic Conditions
- > Fund is Overpriced
- > We 'Like' The Fund but Worry About it's Future
- ➤ Believe the Dividend is at Risk
- ➤ Poor Net Asset Value Performance
- > Have a Similar Fund we'd Rather Own



### Reasons Not to Own a CEF

(Doesn't mean you can't make money)

- Waiting to get back to cost basis or purchased price
- Only because of it's big discount
- Only because of it's high dividend yield
- "I have had it in my portfolio for years, and I am a long-term investor..."
- "I have seen the manager on TV & really like him..."
- "I have no idea why I own the fund"
- "It's at a premium, so it must be good"
- "I saw a post online, but didn't do any other research"



## Summary

- There are many details to consider when looking at a closed-end fund
- Data and valuation change intra-day: CEFs are not a great "buy & hold" investment
- CEFA.com, CEF Connect & Morningstar can have old, incomplete or inaccurate data -> check with the Fund Sponsor's website for the best information
- ➤ Know why you own a fund, and what would cause you to sell or reduce your position



## QUESTIONS?

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