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BLACKROCK PREFERRED INCOME STRATEGIES FUND, INC.

Form 4

January 18, 2008

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

0.5

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * KESTER CARL W

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

Symbol

BLACKROCK PREFERRED INCOME STRATEGIES FUND,

(Check all applicable)

INC. [PSY]

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

X_ Director 10% Owner Officer (give title Other (specify below)

(Month/Day/Year)

40 EAST 52ND STREET 01/16/2008

> (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

> > Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

NEW YORK, NY 10022

(State) (Zip) (City)

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount of TransactionDerivative Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if **Expiration Date Underlying Securities**

(9-02)

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (A or Disposed (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		(Instr. 3 and 4)		4)
				Code V	(A) (I	D) Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Performance Rights (1)	<u>(2)</u>	01/16/2008		A	18.095	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	Common	18.095

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
KESTER CARL W 40 EAST 52ND STREET NEW YORK, NY 10022	X						

Signatures

/s/ Vincent B. Tritto as Attorney-in-Fact 01/18/2008

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) The Phantom Stock units were accrued under the BlackRock Deferred Compensation Plan.
- (2) One performance right is convertible into the cash value of one share of BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.
- (3) The units are to be settled 100% in cash at the deferral period chosen by the reporting person.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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