

Risk Factors Comparison 2024-02-27 to 2023-02-28 Form: 10-K

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We compete to provide financing to development- stage companies in our Target Industries with a number of investment funds and other BDCs, as well as traditional financial services companies such as commercial banks and other financing sources. Some of our competitors are larger and have greater financial and other resources than we do. We believe we compete effectively with these entities primarily on the basis of the experience, industry knowledge and contacts of our Advisor’ s investment professionals, our Advisor’ s responsiveness, efficient investment analysis and decision- making processes, its creative financing products and its customized investment terms. We do not intend to compete primarily on the interest rates we offer and believe that some competitors make loans with rates that are comparable to or lower than our rates. For additional information concerning our competitive position and competitive risks, see “ Item 1A — Risk Factors — General Risk Factors — We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities, and if we are not able to compete effectively, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected and the value of your investment in us could decline. ”

Investment criteria We seek to invest in companies that vary by their stage of development, their Target Industries and sectors of Target Industries and their geographical location, as well as by the venture capital and private equity sponsors that support our portfolio companies. We also seek investments in public development stage companies. While we invest in companies at various stages of development, we require that prospective portfolio companies be beyond the seed stage of development and have received at least their first round of venture capital or private equity financing before we will consider making an investment. We expect a prospective portfolio company to demonstrate its ability to advance technology and increase its value over time. We have identified several criteria that we believe have proven, and will continue to prove, important in achieving our investment objective. These criteria provide general guidelines for our investment decisions. However, we caution you that not all of these criteria are met by each portfolio company in which we choose to invest. Management. Our portfolio companies are generally led by experienced management that has in- market expertise in the Target Industry in which the company operates, as well as extensive experience with development- stage companies. The adequacy and completeness of the management team is assessed relative to the stage of development and the challenges facing the potential portfolio company. Continuing support from one or more venture capital and private equity investors. We typically invest in companies in which one or more established venture capital and private equity investors have previously invested and continue to make a contribution to the management of the business. We believe that established venture capital and private equity investors can serve as committed partners and will assist their portfolio companies and their management teams in creating value. We take into consideration the total amount raised by the company, the valuation history, investor reserves for future investment and the expected timing and milestones to the next equity round financing. We also invest in public companies that we believe will continue to have access to the public markets for additional equity capital. 8Operating plan and cash resources. We generally require that a prospective portfolio company, in addition to having sufficient access to capital to support leverage, demonstrate an operating plan capable of generating cash flows or the ability to raise the additional capital necessary to cover its operating expenses and service its debt. Our review of the operating plan will take into consideration existing cash, cash burn, cash runway and the milestones necessary for the company to achieve cash flow positive operations or to access additional equity from its investors. Enterprise and technology value. We expect that the enterprise value of a prospective portfolio company should substantially exceed the principal balance of debt borrowed by the company. Enterprise value for private companies includes the implied valuation based upon recent equity capital invested as well as the intrinsic value of the company’ s particular technology, service or customer base. Enterprise value for public companies is the market capitalization of such company. Market opportunity and exit strategy. We seek portfolio companies that are addressing market opportunities that capitalize on their competitive advantages. Competitive advantages may include unique technology, legally protected intellectual property, superior clinical results or significant market traction. As part of our investment analysis, we typically also consider potential realization of our private company warrants through merger, acquisition or initial public offering based upon comparable exits in the company’ s Target Industry. Investment process Our Board has delegated authority for all investment decisions to our Advisor. Our Advisor, in turn, has created an integrated approach to the loan origination, underwriting, approval and documentation process that we believe effectively combines the skills of our Advisor’ s professionals. This process allows our Advisor to achieve an efficient and timely closing of an investment from the initial contact with a prospective portfolio company through the investment decision, close of documentation and funding of the investment, while ensuring that our Advisor’ s rigorous underwriting standards are consistently maintained. We believe that the high level of involvement by our Advisor’ s staff in the various phases of the investment process allows us to minimize the credit risk while delivering superior service to our portfolio companies.

Origination. Our Advisor’ s loan origination process begins with its industry- focused regional managing directors who are responsible for identifying, contacting and screening prospects. These managing directors meet with key decision makers and deal referral sources such as venture capital and private equity firms and management teams, legal firms, accounting firms, investment banks, portfolio company advisors and other lenders to source prospective portfolio companies. We believe our brand name and management team are well known within the Venture Lending community, as well as by many repeat entrepreneurs and board members of prospective portfolio companies. These broad relationships, which reach across the Venture Lending industry, give rise to a significant portion of our Advisor’ s deal origination. The responsible managing director of our Advisor obtains materials from the prospective portfolio company and from those materials, as well as other available information, determines whether it is appropriate for our Advisor to issue a non- binding term sheet. The managing

director bases this decision to proceed on his or her experience, the competitive environment and the prospective portfolio company's needs and also seeks the counsel of our Advisor's senior management and investment team. Term sheet. If the managing director determines, after review and consultation with senior management, that the potential transaction meets our Advisor's initial credit standards, our Advisor will issue a non-binding term sheet to the prospective portfolio company. The terms of the transaction are tailored to a prospective portfolio company's specific funding needs while taking into consideration market dynamics, the quality of the management team, the venture capital and private equity investors involved or the ability of the prospective portfolio company to access public equity and applicable credit criteria, which may include the prospective portfolio company's existing cash resources, the development of its technology and the anticipated timing for the next round of equity financing. Underwriting. Once the term sheet has been negotiated and executed and the prospective portfolio company has remitted a good faith deposit, we request additional due diligence materials from the prospective portfolio company and arrange for a due diligence visit. Due diligence. The due diligence process includes a formal visit to the prospective portfolio company's location and interviews with the prospective portfolio company's senior management team. The process includes obtaining and analyzing publicly available information from independent third parties that have knowledge of the prospective portfolio company's business, including, to the extent available, analysts that follow the technology market, thought leaders in our Target Industries and important customers or partners, if any. Outside sources of information are reviewed, including industry publications, scientific and market articles, internet publications, publicly available information on competitors or competing technologies and information known to our Advisor's investment team from their experience in the technology markets. 9A primary element of the due diligence process is interviewing key existing investors of the prospective portfolio company, who are often also members of the prospective portfolio company's board of directors. While these board members and / or investors are not independent sources of information, their support for management and willingness to support the prospective portfolio company's further development are critical elements of our decision making process. Investment memorandum. Upon completion of the due diligence process and review and analysis of all of the information provided by the prospective portfolio company and obtained externally, our Advisor's assigned credit officer prepares an investment memorandum for review and approval. The investment memorandum is reviewed by our Advisor's Chief Investment Officer and then submitted to our Advisor's investment committee for approval. Investment committee. Our Advisor's investment committee is responsible for overall credit policy, portfolio management, approval of all investments, portfolio monitoring and reporting and managing of problem accounts. The committee interacts with the entire staff of our Advisor to review potential transactions and deal flow. This interaction of cross-functional members of our Advisor's staff assures efficient transaction sourcing, negotiating and underwriting throughout the transaction process. Portfolio performance and current market conditions are reviewed and discussed by the investment committee on a regular basis to assure that transaction structures and terms are consistent and current. Loan closing and funding. Approved investments are documented and closed by our Advisor's in-house legal and loan administration staff. Loan documentation is based upon standard templates created by our Advisor and is customized for each transaction to reflect the specific deal terms. The transaction documents typically include a loan and security agreement, warrant agreement and applicable perfection documents, including applicable Uniform Commercial Code financing statements and, as applicable, may also include a landlord agreement, patent and trademark security grants, a subordination agreement, an intercreditor agreement and other standard agreements for commercial loans in the Venture Lending industry. Funding requires final approval by our Advisor's General Counsel, Chief Executive Officer or President, Chief Financial Officer and Chief Investment Officer or Chief Credit Officer. Portfolio management and reporting. Our Advisor maintains a "hands on" approach to maintain communication with our portfolio companies. At least quarterly, our Advisor contacts our portfolio companies for operational and financial updates by phone and performs reviews. Our Advisor may contact portfolio companies deemed to have greater credit risk on a monthly or more frequent basis. Our Advisor requires all private companies to provide financial statements, typically monthly. For public companies, our Advisor typically relies on publicly reported quarterly financials. This allows our Advisor to identify any unexpected developments in the financial performance or condition of our portfolio company. Our Advisor has developed a proprietary internal credit rating system to analyze the quality of our debt investments. Using this system, our Advisor analyzes and then rates the credit risk within the portfolio on a quarterly basis. Each portfolio company is rated on a 1 through 4 scale, with 3 representing the rating for a standard level of risk. A rating of 4 represents an improved and better credit quality than existed at the time of its original underwriting. A rating of 2 or 1 represents a deteriorating credit quality and an increased risk of loss of principal. Newly funded investments are typically assigned a rating of 3, unless extraordinary circumstances require otherwise. These investment ratings are generated internally by our Advisor, and we cannot guarantee that others would assign the same ratings to our portfolio investments or similar portfolio investments. Our Advisor closely monitors portfolio companies rated a 1 or 2 for adverse developments. In addition, our Advisor maintains regular contact with the management, board of directors and major equity holders of these portfolio companies in order to discuss strategic initiatives to correct the deterioration of the portfolio company. The following table describes each rating level: Rating 4 The portfolio company has performed in excess of our expectations as demonstrated by exceeding revenue milestones, clinical milestones or other operating metrics or as a result of raising capital well in excess of our underwriting assumptions. Generally the portfolio company displays one or more of the following: its enterprise value greatly exceeds our loan balance; it has achieved cash flow positive operations or has sufficient cash resources to cover the remaining balance of the loan; there is strong potential for warrant gains from our warrants; and there is a high likelihood that the borrower will receive favorable future financing to support operations. Loans rated 4 are the lowest risk profile in our portfolio and have no expected risk of principal loss. 3 The portfolio company has performed to our expectations as demonstrated by meeting revenue milestones, clinical milestones or other operating metrics. It has raised, or is expected to raise, capital consistent with our underwriting assumptions. Generally the portfolio company displays one or more of the following: its enterprise value comfortably exceeds our loan balance; it has sufficient cash resources to operate according to its

plan; it is expected to raise additional capital as needed; and there continues to be potential for warrant gains from our warrants. New loans are typically rated 3 when approved and thereafter 3 - rated loans represent a standard risk profile, with no principal loss currently expected. 2 The portfolio company has performed below our expectations as demonstrated by missing revenue milestones, delayed clinical progress or otherwise failing to meet projected operating metrics. It may have raised capital in support of the poorer performance but generally on less favorable terms than originally contemplated at the time of underwriting. Generally the portfolio company displays one or more of the following: its enterprise value exceeds our loan balance but at a lower multiple than originally expected; it has sufficient cash to operate according to its plan but liquidity may be tight; and it is planning to raise additional capital but there is uncertainty and the potential for warrant gains from our warrants are possible, but unlikely. Loans rated 2 represent an increased level of risk of loss of principal. While no loss is currently anticipated for a 2 - rated loan, there is potential for future loss of principal. 1 The portfolio company has performed well below plan as demonstrated by materially missing revenue milestones, delayed or failed clinical progress or otherwise failing to meet operating metrics. The portfolio company has not raised sufficient capital to operate effectively or retire its debt obligation to us. Generally the portfolio company displays one or more of the following: its enterprise value may not exceed our loan balance; it has insufficient cash to operate according to its plan and liquidity may be tight; and there are uncertain plans to raise additional capital or the portfolio company is being sold under distressed conditions. There is no potential for warrant gains from our warrants. Loans rated 1 are generally put on non-accrual status and represent a high degree of risk of loss of principal. For a discussion of the ratings of our existing portfolio, see “Item 7 — Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Debt investment asset quality.”

10 Managerial assistance As a BDC, we offer, through our Advisor, and must provide upon request, managerial assistance to certain of our portfolio companies. This assistance may involve monitoring the operations of the portfolio companies, participating in board of directors and management meetings, consulting with and advising officers of portfolio companies and providing other organizational and financial guidance. Although we may receive fees for these services, pursuant to the Administration Agreement, we will reimburse our Advisor for its expenses related to providing such services on our behalf. Employees We do not have any employees. Each of our executive officers is an employee of our Advisor. Our day-to-day investment operations are managed by our Advisor. We reimburse our Advisor for our allocable portion of expenses incurred by it in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, as our Administrator, including our allocable portion of the cost of our Chief Financial Officer and Chief Compliance Officer and their respective staffs. Investment Management Agreement Under the terms of the Investment Management Agreement, our Advisor:

- determines the composition of our portfolio, the nature and timing of the changes to our portfolio and the manner of implementing such changes;
- identifies, evaluates and negotiates the structure of the investments we make (including performing due diligence on our prospective portfolio companies); and
- closes, monitors and administers the investments we make, including the exercise of any voting or consent rights. Our Advisor’s services under the Investment Management Agreement are not exclusive, and it is free to furnish similar services to other entities so long as its services to us are not impaired.

Investment advisory fees Pursuant to our Investment Management Agreement, we pay our Advisor a fee for investment advisory and management services consisting of a base management fee and an incentive fee. Base management fee. The base management fee is calculated at an annual rate of 2.00% of the Company’s gross assets (less cash and cash equivalents) including any assets acquired with the proceeds of leverage; provided that, to the extent the Company’s gross assets (less cash and cash equivalents) exceed \$250 million, the base management fee on the amount of such excess over \$250 million is calculated at an annual rate of 1.60% of the Company’s gross assets (less cash and cash equivalents) including any assets acquired with the proceeds of leverage. Incentive fee. The incentive fee has two parts, as follows: The first part, which is subject to the Incentive Fee Cap and Deferral Mechanism, as defined below, is calculated and payable quarterly in arrears based on our Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income for the immediately preceding calendar quarter. For this purpose, “Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income” means interest income, dividend income and any other income (including any other fees (other than fees for providing managerial assistance), such as commitment, origination, structuring, diligence and consulting fees or other fees received from portfolio companies) accrued during the calendar quarter, minus expenses for the quarter (including the base management fee, expenses payable under the Administration Agreement, and any interest expense and any dividends paid on any issued and outstanding preferred stock, but excluding the incentive fee). Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income includes, in the case of investments with a deferred interest feature (such as original issue discount, debt instruments with payment-in-kind interest, or PIK, and zero coupon securities), accrued income we have not yet received in cash. The incentive fee with respect to the Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income is 20.00% of the amount, if any, by which the Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income for the immediately preceding calendar quarter exceeds a hurdle rate of 1.75% (which is 7.00% annualized) of our net assets at the end of the immediately preceding calendar quarter, subject to a “catch-up” provision measured as of the end of each calendar quarter. Under this provision, in any calendar quarter, the Advisor receives no incentive fee until the Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income equals the hurdle rate of 1.75%, but then receives, as a “catch-up,” 100.00% of the Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income with respect to that portion of such Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, if any, that exceeds the hurdle rate but is less than 2.1875% quarterly (which is 8.75% annualized). The effect of this “catch-up” provision is that, if Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds 2.1875% in any calendar quarter, the Advisor will receive 20.00% of the Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income as if the hurdle rate did not apply. 11 Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income does not include any realized capital gains, realized capital losses or unrealized capital appreciation or depreciation. Because of the structure of the incentive fee, it is possible that we may pay an incentive fee in a quarter in which we incur a loss. For example, if we receive Pre-Incentive Fee Net Investment Income in excess of the quarterly minimum hurdle rate, we will pay the applicable incentive fee up to the Incentive Fee Cap, defined below, even if we have incurred a loss in that quarter due to realized and unrealized capital losses. Our net investment income used to calculate this part of the incentive fee is also included in the amount of our gross assets used to calculate the 2.00%

base management fee. These calculations are appropriately prorated for any period of less than three months and adjusted for any share issuances or repurchases during the applicable quarter. The incentive fee on Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income is subject to a fee cap and deferral mechanism which is determined based upon a look- back period of up to three years and is expensed when incurred. For this purpose, the look- back period for the incentive fee based on Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income, or the Incentive Fee Look- back Period, the Incentive Fee Look- back Period includes the most recently completed calendar quarter and the 11 preceding full calendar quarters. Each quarterly incentive fee payable on Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income is subject to a cap, or the Incentive Fee Cap, and a deferral mechanism through which the Advisor may recoup a portion of such deferred incentive fees (collectively, the Incentive Fee Cap and Deferral Mechanism). The Incentive Fee Cap is equal to (a) 20.00% of Cumulative Pre- Incentive Fee Net Return (as defined below) during the Incentive Fee Look- back Period less (b) cumulative incentive fees of any kind paid to the Advisor during the Incentive Fee Look- back Period. To the extent the Incentive Fee Cap is zero or a negative value in any calendar quarter, we will not pay an incentive fee on Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income to the Advisor in that quarter. To the extent that the payment of incentive fees on Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income is limited by the Incentive Fee Cap, the payment of such fees will be deferred and paid in subsequent calendar quarters up to three years after their date of deferment, subject to certain limitations, which are set forth in the Investment Management Agreement. We only pay incentive fees on Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income to the extent allowed by the Incentive Fee Cap and Deferral Mechanism. “Cumulative Pre- Incentive Fee Net Return” during any Incentive Fee Look- back Period means the sum of (a) Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income and the base management fee for each calendar quarter during the Incentive Fee Look- back Period and (b) the sum of cumulative realized capital gains and losses, cumulative unrealized capital appreciation and cumulative unrealized capital depreciation during the applicable Incentive Fee Look- back Period. The following is a graphical representation of the calculation of the income- related portion of the incentive fee: Quarterly incentive fee based on Net Investment Income Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (expressed as a percentage of the value of net assets) Percentage of Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income allocated to first part of incentive fee 12The second part of the incentive fee is determined and payable in arrears as of the end of each calendar year (or upon termination of the Investment Management Agreement, as of the termination date) and equals 20.00% of our realized capital gains, if any, on a cumulative basis from the date of our election to be a BDC through the end of each calendar year, computed net of all realized capital losses and unrealized capital depreciation on a cumulative basis through the end of such year, less all previous amounts paid in respect of the capital gain incentive fee. Examples of incentive fee calculation Example 1: Income related portion of incentive fee before total return requirement calculation for each fiscal quarter Alternative 1 Assumptions: Investment income (including interest, distributions, fees, etc.) = 1.25% Hurdle rate (1) = 1.75% Management fee (2) = 0.50% Other expenses (legal, accounting, custodian, transfer agent, etc.) (3) = 0.20% Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (investment income- (management fee other expenses)) = 0.55% Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income does not exceed hurdle rate; therefore, there is no income- related incentive fee. Alternative 2 Investment income (including interest, distributions, fees, etc.) = 2.80% Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (investment income- (management fee other expenses)) = 2.10% Incentive fee = 100.00% × Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (subject to “catch- up”) (4) = 100.00% × (2.10% - 1.75%) = 0.35% Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds the hurdle rate, but does not fully satisfy the “catch- up” provision; therefore, the income related portion of the incentive fee is 0.35%. 13Alternative 3 Investment income (including interest, distributions, fees, etc.) = 3.00% Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (investment income- (management fee other expenses)) = 2.30% Incentive fee = 100.00% × “catch- up” (20.00% × (Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income - 2.1875%)) Catch up = 2.1875% - 1.75% = 0.4375% Incentive fee = (100.00% × 0.4375%) (20.00% × (2.30% - 2.1875%)) = 0.4375% (20.00% × 0.1125%) = 0.4375% 0.0225% = 0.46% Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds the hurdle rate and fully satisfies the “catch- up” provision; therefore, the income related portion of the incentive fee is 0.46%. (1) Represents 7.00% annualized hurdle rate. (2) Represents 2.00% annualized base management fee. (3) Excludes organizational and offering expenses. (4) The “catch- up” provision is intended to provide our Advisor with an incentive fee of 20.00% on all Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income as if a hurdle rate did not apply when our Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds 2.1875% in any fiscal quarter. Example 2: Income related portion of incentive fee after total return requirement calculation for each fiscal quarter Incentive fee = 100.00% × Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income (subject to ‘ ‘catch- up’’) (4) = 100.00% × (2.10% - 1.75%) 14Cumulative incentive compensation accrued and / or paid since July 1, 2014 = \$ 9,000,000 20.0% of cumulative net increase in net assets resulting from operations since July 1, 2014 = \$ 8,000,000 Although our Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds the hurdle rate of 1.75%, no incentive fee is payable because 20.0% of the cumulative net increase in net assets resulting from operations since July 1, 2014 did not exceed the cumulative income and capital gains incentive fees accrued and / or paid since July 1, 2014. Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds the hurdle rate, but does not fully satisfy the ‘ ‘catch- up’ ’ provision; therefore, the income related portion of the incentive fee is 0.35%. 20.0% of cumulative net increase in net assets resulting from operations since July 1, 2014 = \$ 10,000,000 Because our Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income exceeds the hurdle rate of 1.75% and because 20.0% of the cumulative net increase in net assets resulting from operations since July 1, 2014 exceeds the cumulative income and capital gains incentive fees accrued and / or paid since July 1, 2014, an incentive fee would be payable, as shown in Alternative 3 of Example 1 above. 15Example 3: Capital gains portion of incentive fee Year 1: \$ 20 million investment made in Company A, or Investment A, and \$ 30 million investment made in Company B, or Investment B Year 2: Investment A sold for \$ 50 million and fair market value, or FMV, of Investment B determined to be \$ 32 million Year 3: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$ 25 million Year 4: Investment B sold for \$ 31 million The capital gains portion of the incentive fee, if any, would be: Year 1: None (No sales transaction) Year 2: Capital gains incentive fee of \$ 6 million (\$ 30 million realized capital gains on sale of Investment A multiplied by 20%) Year 3: None; \$ 5 million ((20% multiplied by (\$ 30 million cumulative capital gains less \$ 5 million cumulative capital depreciation)) less \$ 6 million (previous capital gains fee

paid in Year 2)) Year 4: Capital gains incentive fee of \$ 200, 000; \$ 6. 2 million ((\$ 31 million cumulative realized capital gains multiplied by 20 %) less \$ 6 million (capital gains incentive fee taken in Year 2)) Year 1: \$ 20 million investment made in Company A, or Investment A, \$ 30 million investment made in Company B, or Investment B and \$ 25 million investment made in Company C, or Investment C Year 2: Investment A sold for \$ 50 million, FMV of Investment B determined to be \$ 25 million and FMV of Investment C determined to be \$ 25 million Year 3: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$ 27 million and Investment C sold for \$ 30 million Year 4: FMV of Investment B determined to be \$ 35 million Year 5: Investment B sold for \$ 20 million The capital gains incentive fee, if any, would be: Year 1: None (no sales transaction) Year 2: \$ 5 million capital gains incentive fee (20 % multiplied by \$ 25 million (\$ 30 million realized capital gains on Investment A less unrealized capital depreciation on Investment B)) 16Year 3: \$ 1. 4 million capital gains incentive fee (1) (\$ 6. 4 million (20 % multiplied by \$ 32 million (\$ 35 million cumulative realized capital gains less \$ 3 million unrealized capital depreciation)) less \$ 5 million capital gains incentive fee received in Year 2 Year 4: None (no sales transaction) Year 5: None (\$ 5 million (20 % multiplied by \$ 25 million (cumulative realized capital gains of \$ 35 million less realized capital losses of \$ 10 million)) less \$ 6. 4 million cumulative capital gains incentive fee paid in Year 2 and Year 3 (2) The hypothetical amounts of returns shown are based on a percentage of our total net assets and assume no leverage. There is no guarantee that positive returns will be realized and actual returns may vary from those shown in this example. (1) As illustrated in Year 3 of Alternative 1 above, if the Investment Management Agreement were terminated on a date other than our fiscal year end of any year, we may have paid aggregate capital gains incentive fees that are more than the amount of such fees that would be payable if the Investment Management Agreement were terminated on the fiscal year end of such year. (2) As noted above, it is possible that the cumulative aggregate capital gains fee received by the Advisor (\$ 6. 4 million) is effectively greater than \$ 5 million (20. 00 % of cumulative aggregate realized capital gains less net realized capital losses or net unrealized depreciation (\$ 25 million)). Payment of our expenses All investment professionals and staff of our Advisor, when and to the extent engaged in providing investment advisory and management services, and the compensation and routine overhead expenses of its personnel allocable to such services, are provided and paid for by our Advisor. We bear all other costs and expenses of our operations and transactions, including those relating to: • our organization; • calculating our net asset value, or NAV (including the cost and expenses of any independent valuation firms); • expenses, including travel expense, incurred by our Advisor or payable to third parties performing due diligence on prospective portfolio companies, monitoring our investments and, if necessary, enforcing our rights; • interest payable on debt, if any, incurred to finance our investments; • the costs of all future offerings and repurchases of our common stock and other securities, if any; • the base management fee and any incentive fee; • distributions on our shares; • administration fees payable under the Administration Agreement; • the allocated costs incurred by our Advisor as our Administrator in providing managerial assistance to those portfolio companies that request it; • amounts payable to third parties relating to, or associated with, making investments; • transfer agent and custodial fees; • registration fees; • listing fees; • fees and expenses associated with marketing efforts; • taxes; 17 • independent director fees and expenses; • brokerage commissions; • costs of preparing and filing reports or other documents with the SEC; • the costs of any reports, proxy statements or other notices to our stockholders, including printing costs; • the fidelity bond; • directors and officers / errors and omissions liability insurance, and any other insurance premiums; • indemnification payments; • direct costs and expenses of administration, including audit and legal costs; and • all other expenses incurred by us or the Administrator in connection with administering our business, such as the allocable portion of overhead under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions and our allocable portion of the costs of compensation and related expenses of our Chief Financial Officer and Chief Compliance Officer and their respective staffs. From time to time, our Advisor may pay amounts owed by us to third party providers of goods or services. We subsequently reimburse our Advisor for such amounts paid on our behalf. Generally, our expenses are expensed as incurred in accordance with U. S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP. To the extent we incur costs that should be capitalized and amortized into expense we also do so in accordance with GAAP, which may include amortizing such amount on a straight line basis over the life of the asset or the life of the services or product being performed or provided. Limitation of liability and indemnification The Investment Management Agreement provides that our Advisor and its officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons and any other person or entity affiliated with our Advisor are not liable to us for any act or omission by it in the supervision or management of our investment activities or for any loss sustained by us except for acts or omissions constituting willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of its obligations under the Investment Management Agreement. The Investment Management Agreement also provides, subject to certain conditions, for indemnification by us of our Advisor and its officers, managers, partners, agents, employees, controlling persons and any other person or entity affiliated with our Advisor for liabilities incurred by them in connection with their services to us (including any liabilities associated with an action or suit by or in the right of us or our stockholders), but excluding liabilities for acts or omissions constituting willful misfeasance, bad faith or gross negligence or reckless disregard of their duties under the Investment Management Agreement. Board Recommendation and Approval of the Investment Management Agreement At a special meeting of the stockholders on October 30, 2018, the stockholders, upon the recommendation of the Board, approved ~~a new~~ **the 2019** Investment Management Agreement which became effective on March 7, 2019. The **2019** investment Management Agreement was **considered and reapproved by our Board, including a majority of our independent directors, on October 28, 2022. At a meeting of the stockholders convened on May 25, 2023 and reconvened on June 28, 2023, the stockholders approved the New Investment Management Agreement, which became effective on June 30, 2023. The Investment Management Agreement is** effective for two years from the date of approval and ~~now~~ **then** must be annually reapproved by our Board for a one- year period ~~. The Investment Management Agreement was considered and reapproved by our Board, including a majority of our independent directors, on October 28, 2022~~. When it considered recommending the approval of the Investment Management Agreement, our Board held a meeting at which it focused on information it received relating to **, among other things,** (a) the

nature, quality and extent of the advisory and other services to be provided to us by our Advisor; (b) comparative data with respect to advisory fees or similar expenses paid by other BDCs with similar investment objectives; (c) our projected expenses and expense ratio compared to BDCs with similar investment objectives; (d) any existing and potential sources of indirect income to our Advisor or the Administrator from their relationships with us and the profitability of those relationships; (e) information about the services to be performed and the personnel performing such services under the Investment Management Agreement; (f) the organizational capability and financial condition of our Advisor and its affiliates; (g) our Advisor's practices regarding the selection and compensation of brokers that may execute our portfolio transactions and the brokers' provision of brokerage and research services to our Advisor; and (h) the possibility of obtaining similar services from other third party service providers or through an internally managed structure. Based on the information reviewed and its discussions related thereto, our Board, including a majority of the directors who are not interested persons of us, determined that the investment management fee rates payable pursuant to the terms of the Investment Management Agreement were reasonable in relation to the services to be provided. 18Duration and termination Unless terminated earlier as described below, it will continue in effect from year to year if approved annually by our Board including a majority of our directors who are not interested persons or by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of our outstanding voting securities and a majority of our directors who are not interested persons. The Investment Management Agreement will automatically terminate in the event of its assignment. The Investment Management Agreement may be terminated by either party without penalty by delivering notice of termination upon not more than 60 days' written notice to the other party. See "Item 1A — Risk Factors — Risks Related to Our Advisor and Affiliates — Our Advisor can resign on 60 days' notice, and we may not be able to find a suitable replacement within that time, resulting in a disruption in our operations that could adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition." The Administration Agreement was considered and reapproved by our Board, including a majority of our independent directors, on October 28-27, 2022-2023. Under the Administration Agreement, the Administrator furnishes us with office facilities and equipment, provides us clerical, bookkeeping and record keeping services at such facilities and provides us with other administrative services necessary to conduct our day-to-day operations. We reimburse the Administrator for our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by the Administrator in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions and our allocable portion of the costs of compensation and related expenses of our Chief Financial Officer and Chief Compliance Officer and their respective staffs. The Board reviews the allocation of expenses shared with the Advisor or other clients of the Advisor, if any, on a periodic basis to confirm that the allocations are reasonable and appropriate in light of the provisions of the Investment Management Agreement and Administration Agreement and then-current circumstances. License agreement We have entered into a license agreement with Horizon Technology Finance Principals Management LLC fka Horizon Technology Finance, LLC, or HTF, pursuant to which we were granted a non-exclusive, royalty-free right and license to use the service mark "Horizon Technology Finance." Under this agreement, we have a right to use the "Horizon Technology Finance" service mark for so long as the Investment Management Agreement with our Advisor is in effect. Other than with respect to this limited license, we have no legal right to the "Horizon Technology Finance" service mark. Regulation We have elected to be regulated as a BDC under the 1940 Act and elected to be treated as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. As with other companies regulated by the 1940 Act, a BDC must adhere to certain substantive regulatory requirements. The 1940 Act contains prohibitions and restrictions relating to transactions between BDCs and their affiliates (including any investment advisers or sub-advisers), principal underwriters and affiliates of those affiliates or underwriters and requires that a majority of the directors be persons other than "interested persons," as that term is defined in the 1940 Act. In addition, the 1940 Act provides that we may not change the nature of our business so as to cease to be, or to withdraw our election as, a BDC unless approved by "a majority of our outstanding voting securities" as defined in the 1940 Act. A majority of the outstanding voting securities of a company is defined under the 1940 Act as the lesser of: (1) 67% or more of such company's shares present at a meeting if more than 50% of the outstanding shares of such company are present or represented by proxy or (2) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of such company. Our bylaws provide for the calling of a special meeting of stockholders at which such action could be considered upon written notice of not less than ten or more than sixty days before the date of such meeting. 19We may invest up to 100% of our assets in securities acquired directly from issuers in privately negotiated transactions. With respect to such securities, we may, for the purpose of public resale, be deemed an "underwriter" as that term is defined in the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. We do not intend to acquire securities issued by any investment company that exceed the limits imposed by the 1940 Act. Under these limits, except for registered money market funds, we generally cannot acquire more than 3% of the voting stock of any investment company, invest more than 5% of the value of our total assets in the securities of one investment company or invest more than 10% of the value of our total assets in the securities of more than one investment company. With regard to that portion of our portfolio invested in securities issued by investment companies, it should be noted that such investments might subject our stockholders to additional expenses. None of our investment policies are fundamental and any may be changed without stockholder approval. We may also be prohibited under the 1940 Act from knowingly participating in certain transactions with our affiliates without the prior approval of our directors who are not interested persons and, in some cases, prior approval by the SEC. For example, under the 1940 Act, absent receipt of exemptive relief from the SEC, we and our affiliates may be precluded from co-investing in transactions for which terms other than price are negotiated by our affiliates. As a result of one or more of these situations, we may not be able to invest as much as we otherwise would in certain investments or may not be able to liquidate a position as quickly. On November 27, 2017, the SEC granted us, our Advisor and certain of our affiliates an exemptive relief order permitting us to co-invest with certain affiliated funds in negotiated investments, subject to the terms and conditions of the order. We expect to be periodically examined by the SEC for compliance with the 1940 Act. We are required to provide and maintain a bond issued by a reputable fidelity insurance company to protect us against larceny and embezzlement. Furthermore, as a BDC, we are prohibited from protecting any

director or officer against any liability to us or our stockholders arising from willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such person's office. We and our Advisor have adopted and implemented written policies and procedures reasonably designed to prevent violation of the federal securities laws and review these policies and procedures annually for their adequacy and the effectiveness of their implementation. We and our Advisor have designated a chief compliance officer to be responsible for administering the policies and procedures. Qualifying assets

Under the 1940 Act, a BDC may not acquire any asset other than assets of the type listed in section 55 (a) of the 1940 Act, which are referred to as qualifying assets, unless, at the time the acquisition is made, qualifying assets represent at least 70 % of the company's total assets. The principal categories of qualifying assets relevant to our proposed business are the following:

- Securities purchased in transactions not involving any public offering from the issuer of such securities, which issuer (subject to certain limited exceptions) is an eligible portfolio company, or from any person who is, or has been during the preceding 13 months, an affiliated person of an eligible portfolio company, or from any other person, subject to such rules as may be prescribed by the SEC. An eligible portfolio company is defined in the 1940 Act as any issuer which:
 - is organized under the laws of, and has its principal place of business in, the United States;
 - is not an investment company (other than a small business investment company wholly owned by the BDC) or a company that would be an investment company but for certain exclusions under the 1940 Act; and
 - satisfies any of the following:
 - has a market capitalization of less than \$ 250 million or does not have any class of securities listed on a national securities exchange;
 - is controlled by a BDC or a group of companies including a BDC, the BDC actually exercises a controlling influence over the management or policies of the eligible portfolio company, and, as a result thereof, the BDC has an affiliated person who is a director of the eligible portfolio company;
 - is a small and solvent company having total assets of not more than \$ 4 million and capital and surplus of not less than \$ 2 million.
- Securities of any eligible portfolio company which we control.
- Securities purchased in a private transaction from a U. S. issuer that is not an investment company or from an affiliated person of the issuer, or in transactions incident thereto, if the issuer is in bankruptcy and subject to reorganization or if the issuer, immediately prior to the purchase of its securities was unable to meet its obligations as they came due without material assistance other than conventional lending or financing arrangements.
- Securities of an eligible portfolio company purchased from any person in a private transaction if there is no ready market for such securities and we already own 60 % of the outstanding equity of the eligible portfolio company.
- Securities received in exchange for or distributed on or with respect to securities described above, or pursuant to the exercise of warrants or rights relating to such securities.
- Cash, cash equivalents, U. S. Government securities or high- quality debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment. The regulations defining qualifying assets may change over time. We may adjust our investment focus as needed to comply with and / or take advantage of any regulatory, legislative, administrative or judicial actions in this area. Managerial assistance to portfolio companies A BDC must have been organized and have its principal place of business in the United States and must be operated for the purpose of making investments in the types of securities described in " Qualifying assets. " However, in order to count portfolio securities as qualifying assets for the purpose of the 70 % test, the BDC must either control the issuer of the securities or must offer to make available to the issuer of the securities (other than small and solvent companies described above) significant managerial assistance. Where the BDC purchases such securities in conjunction with one or more other persons acting together, the BDC will satisfy this test if one of the other persons in the group makes available such managerial assistance. Making available managerial assistance means, among other things, any arrangement whereby the BDC, through its directors, officers or employees, offers to provide, and, if accepted, does so provide, significant guidance and counsel concerning the management, operations or business objectives and policies of a portfolio company.

Issuance of additional shares We are not generally able to issue and sell our common stock at a price below NAV per share. We may, however, issue and sell our common stock, at a price below the current NAV of the common stock, or issue and sell warrants, options or rights to acquire such common stock, at a price below the current NAV of the common stock if our Board determines that such sale is in our best interest and in the best interests of our stockholders, and our stockholders have approved our policy and practice of making such sales within the preceding 12 months. In any such case, the price at which our securities are to be issued and sold may not be less than a price which, in the determination of our Board, closely approximates the market value of such securities. We have not sought the approval of our stockholders in the preceding 12 months but we may seek approval from our stockholders to offer shares of our common stock below its NAV in the future.

Temporary investments Pending investment in other types of " qualifying assets, " as described above, our investments may consist of cash, cash equivalents, U. S. Government securities or high- quality debt securities maturing in one year or less from the time of investment, which we refer to, collectively, as temporary investments, so that 70 % of our assets are qualifying assets. Typically, we invest in highly rated commercial paper, U. S. Government agency notes, U. S. Treasury bills or in repurchase agreements relating to such securities that are fully collateralized by cash or securities issued by the U. S. Government or its agencies. A repurchase agreement involves the purchase by an investor, such as us, of a specified security and the simultaneous agreement by the seller to repurchase it at an agreed- upon future date and at a price which is greater than the purchase price by an amount that reflects an agreed- upon interest rate. There is no percentage restriction on the proportion of our assets that may be invested in such repurchase agreements. However, subject to certain exceptions, if more than 25 % of our total assets constitute repurchase agreements from a single counterparty, we generally would not meet the diversification tests in order to qualify as a RIC for federal income tax purposes. Thus, we do not intend to enter into repurchase agreements with a single counterparty in excess of this limit. Our Advisor monitors the creditworthiness of the counterparties with which we enter into repurchase agreement transactions.

Senior securities; derivative securities We are permitted, under specified conditions, to issue multiple classes of indebtedness and one class of stock senior to our common stock if our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, is at least equal to 150 % immediately after each such issuance. In addition, while any senior securities are outstanding, we must make provisions to prohibit any distribution to our stockholders or the repurchase of such securities or shares unless we meet the applicable asset coverage requirements at the time of the distribution or repurchase. We may also

borrow amounts up to 5 % of the value of our total assets for temporary purposes without regard to asset coverage. For a discussion of the risks associated with leverage, see “ Item 1A — Risk Factors — General Risk Factors — We borrow money, which magnifies the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and may increase the risk of investing in us. ” The 1940 Act also limits the amount of warrants, options and rights to common stock that we may issue and the terms of such securities. Code of ethics We and our Advisor have each adopted a code of ethics pursuant to Rule 17j - 1 under the 1940 Act and Rule 204A - 1 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or the Advisers Act, respectively, that establishes procedures for personal investments and restricts certain personal securities transactions. Personnel subject to each code may invest in securities for their personal investment accounts, including securities that may be purchased or held by us, so long as such investments are made in accordance with the relevant code of ethics’ requirements. Each code of ethics is published on our website at www.horizontechfinance.com. We intend to disclose any substantive amendments to, or waivers from, the codes of conduct within four business days of the waiver or amendment through a web site posting. Proxy voting policies and procedures We have delegated our proxy voting responsibility to our Advisor. The proxy voting policies and procedures of our Advisor are set forth below. The guidelines are reviewed periodically by our Advisor and our independent directors and, accordingly, are subject to change. Introduction Our Advisor is registered with the SEC as an investment adviser under the Advisers Act. As an investment adviser registered under the Advisers Act, our Advisor has fiduciary duties to us. As part of this duty, our Advisor recognizes that it must vote client securities in a timely manner free of conflicts of interest and in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders. Our Advisor’ s proxy voting policies and procedures have been formulated to ensure decision- making is consistent with these fiduciary duties. These policies and procedures for voting proxies are intended to comply with Section 206 of, and Rule 206 (4) - 6 under, the Advisers Act. Proxy policies Our Advisor votes proxies relating to our portfolio securities in what our Advisor perceives to be the best interest of our stockholders. Our Advisor reviews on a case- by- case basis each proposal submitted to a stockholder vote to determine its effect on the portfolio securities held by us. Although our Advisor generally votes against proposals that may have a negative effect on our portfolio securities, our Advisor may vote for such a proposal if there exist compelling long- term reasons to do so. 22Our Advisor’ s proxy voting decisions are made by those senior officers who are responsible for monitoring each of our investments. To ensure that a vote is not the product of a conflict of interest, our Advisor requires that (1) anyone involved in the decision- making process disclose to our Chief Compliance Officer any potential conflict that he or she is aware of and any contact that he or she has had with any interested party regarding a proxy vote and (2) employees involved in the decision- making process or vote administration are prohibited from revealing how we intend to vote on a proposal in order to reduce any attempted influence from interested parties. Proxy voting records You may obtain information about how we voted proxies by making a written request for proxy voting information to: Chief Compliance Officer, Horizon Technology Finance Corporation, 312 Farmington Avenue, Farmington, Connecticut 06032 or by calling (860) 676 - 8654. Sarbanes- Oxley Act of 2002 The Sarbanes- Oxley Act of 2002, as amended, or the Sarbanes- Oxley Act, imposes a wide variety of regulatory requirements on publicly held companies and their insiders. Many of these requirements affect us. For example: • pursuant to Rule 13a - 14 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or the Exchange Act, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer must certify the accuracy of the financial statements contained in our periodic reports; • pursuant to Item 307 of Regulation S- K under the Securities Act, our periodic reports must disclose our conclusions about the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures; • pursuant to Rule 13a - 15 under the Exchange Act, our management must prepare an annual report regarding its assessment of our internal control over financial reporting; and • pursuant to Item 308 of Regulation S- K under the Securities Act and Rule 13a - 15 under the Exchange Act, our periodic reports must disclose whether there were significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting or in other factors that could significantly affect these controls subsequent to the date of their evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses. The Sarbanes- Oxley Act requires us to review our current policies and procedures to determine whether we comply with the Sarbanes- Oxley Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder. We will continue to monitor our compliance with all regulations under the Sarbanes- Oxley Act and intend to take actions necessary to ensure that we are in compliance therewith. Nasdaq corporate governance regulations Nasdaq has adopted corporate governance regulations with which listed companies must comply. We intend to be in compliance with these corporate governance listing standards. We intend to monitor our compliance with all future listing standards and to take all necessary actions to ensure that we are in compliance therewith. Privacy principles We are committed to maintaining the privacy of stockholders and to safeguarding our non- public personal information. The following information is provided to help you understand what personal information we collect, how we protect that information and why, in certain cases, we may share information with select other parties. Generally, we do not receive any nonpublic personal information relating to our stockholders, although certain nonpublic personal information of our stockholders may become available to us. We do not disclose any nonpublic personal information about our stockholders or former stockholders, except as permitted by law or as is necessary in order to service stockholder accounts (for example, to a transfer agent or third party administrator). 23We restrict access to nonpublic personal information about our stockholders to our Advisor’ s employees with a legitimate business need for the information. We maintain physical, electronic and procedural safeguards designed to protect the nonpublic personal information of our stockholders. For a discussion of the risks associated with cyber incidents, see “ Item 1A — Risk Factors — General Risk Factors — We are highly dependent on information systems and systems failures could significantly disrupt our business, which may, in turn, negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay distributions. ” Election to be taxed as a RIC We have elected to be subject to tax, and intend to qualify annually to maintain our election to be subject to tax, as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code. To maintain our RIC status, we must, among other requirements, meet certain source- of- income and quarterly asset diversification requirements (as described below). We also must distribute dividends each tax year of an amount generally at least equal to 90 % of the sum of our ordinary income and our realized net short- term capital gains (i. e., net short- term capital gains in excess of net long term losses), or investment company taxable

income, if any, out of the assets legally available for distribution, which we refer to as the “ Annual Distribution Requirement. ” Although not required for us to maintain our RIC tax status, in order to preclude the imposition of a 4 % nondeductible federal excise tax imposed on RICs, we are required to distribute dividends in respect of each calendar year of an amount generally at least equal to the sum of (1) 98 % of our ordinary income (taking into account certain deferrals and elections) for the calendar year, (2) 98. 2 % of the excess of our capital gains over our capital losses, or capital gain net income (adjusted for certain ordinary losses) for the one- year period ending on October 31 of the calendar year and (3) any ordinary income or net capital gains for preceding years that was not distributed during such years and on which we previously did not incur any U. S. federal corporate income tax, or the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement. In addition, although we may distribute realized net capital gains (i. e., net long- term capital gains in excess of short- term capital losses), if any, at least annually out of the assets legally available for such distributions, we may decide to retain such net capital gains or ordinary income to provide us with additional liquidity. In order to qualify as a RIC, we must: ● maintain an election to be treated as a BDC under the 1940 Act at all times during each tax year; ● meet any applicable securities law requirements, including capital structure requirements; ● derive in each tax year at least 90 % of our gross income from dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, gains from the sale of stock or other securities, net income from certain qualified publicly traded partnerships or other income derived with respect to our business of investing in such stock or securities, or the Qualifying Income Test; and ● diversify our holdings so that at the end of each quarter of the tax year: ● at least 50 % of the value of our assets consists of cash, cash equivalents, U. S. government securities, securities of other RICs, and other securities if such other securities of any one issuer neither represents more than 5 % of the value of our assets nor more than 10 % of the outstanding voting securities of the issuer; and ● no more than 25 % of the value of our assets is invested in the securities, other than U. S. government securities or securities of other RICs, of one issuer or of two or more issuers that are controlled, as determined under applicable tax rules, by us and that are engaged in the same or similar or related trades or businesses or in certain qualified publicly traded partnerships, or the Diversification Tests. Taxation as a RIC If we qualify as a RIC, and satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement, then we will not be subject to entity- level income taxes on the portion of our investment company taxable income as well as any net capital gain (i. e., realized net long- term capital gains in excess of realized net short- term capital losses) we distribute as dividends to stockholders. We may retain for investment all or a portion of our net capital gain. However, if we retain any investment company taxable income or net capital gains, and fail to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement, we will be subject to entity- level taxation at regular corporate rates on any amounts retained. If we fail to qualify as a RIC for a period greater than two consecutive tax years, to qualify as a RIC in a subsequent tax year, we may be subject to regular corporate rates on any net built- in gains with respect to certain of our assets (that is, the excess of the aggregate gains, including items of income, over aggregate losses that would have been realized with respect to such assets if we had sold the property at fair market value at the end of the tax year) that we elect to recognize on requalification or when recognized over the next five tax years. 24We may be required to recognize taxable income in circumstances in which we do not receive cash. For example, if we hold debt securities that are treated under applicable tax rules as having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with PIK interest or, in certain cases, increasing interest rates or issued with warrants), we must include in income each tax year a portion of the original issue discount that accrues over the life of the debt security, regardless of whether cash representing such income is received by us in the same tax year. Because any original issue discount accrued will be included in our investment company taxable income for the tax year of accrual, we may be required to make a distribution to our stockholders in order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement or the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement, even though we will not have received any corresponding cash amount. Gain or loss realized by us from warrants acquired by us, as well as any loss attributable to the lapse of such warrants, generally will be treated as capital gain or loss. Such gain or loss generally will be long- term or short- term, depending on how long we held a particular warrant. Although we do not presently expect to do so, we are authorized to borrow funds and to sell assets in order to satisfy distribution requirements. However, under the 1940 Act, we are generally not permitted to make distributions to our stockholders while our debt obligations and other senior securities are outstanding unless certain “ asset coverage ” tests are met. Moreover, our ability to dispose of assets to meet our distribution requirements may be limited by (1) the illiquid nature of our portfolio and / or (2) other requirements relating to our status as a RIC, including the Diversification Tests. If we dispose of assets in order to meet the Annual Distribution Requirement or the Excise Tax Avoidance Requirement, we may make such dispositions at times that, from an investment standpoint, are not advantageous. Failure to qualify as a RIC If we fail to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement or fail to qualify as a RIC in any tax year, assuming we do not qualify for or take advantage of certain remedial provisions, we will be subject to tax in that year on all of our taxable income, regardless of whether we make any distributions to our stockholders. In that case, all of our income will be subject to corporate- level federal income tax, reducing the amount available to be distributed to our stockholders. In contrast, assuming we qualify as a RIC, our corporate- level federal income tax liability should be substantially reduced or eliminated. See “ — Election to be taxed as a RIC ” above. If we are unable to maintain our status as a RIC, we would be subject to tax on all of our taxable income at regular corporate rates. We would not be able to deduct distributions to stockholders, nor would they be required to be made. Distributions would generally be taxable to our stockholders as ordinary distribution income eligible for the 15 % or 20 % maximum rate to the extent of our current and accumulated earnings and profits. Subject to certain limitations under the Code, dividends paid by us to certain corporate stockholders would be eligible for the dividends received deduction. Distributions in excess of our current and accumulated earnings and profits would be treated first as a return of capital to the extent of the stockholder’ s tax basis in our common stock, and any remaining distributions would be treated as a capital gain. 25Item 1A. Risk Factors Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. In addition to the other information contained in this annual report on Form 10 - K, you should consider carefully the following information before making an investment in our securities. The risks set out below are not the only risks we face. If any of the following events occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. In such case, our NAV per share and the trading

price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose part or all of your investment. Summary Risk Factors Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. The following is a summary of certain of the principal risks that should be carefully considered before investing in our securities: • Political, social and economic uncertainty, including uncertainty related to the inflation and the potential global recession, creates and exacerbates risks. • The capital markets are currently in a period of disruption and economic uncertainty. Such market conditions have materially and adversely affected debt and equity capital markets, which have had, and may continue to have, a negative impact on our business and operations. • Our operation as a BDC imposes numerous constraints on us and significantly reduces our operating flexibility. In addition, if we fail to maintain our status as a BDC, we might be regulated as a closed- end investment company, which would subject us to additional regulatory restrictions. • We will be subject to corporate- level U. S. federal income tax on all of our income if we are unable to maintain our qualification for tax treatment as a RIC under Subchapter M of the Code, which would have a material adverse effect on our financial performance. • We are dependent upon management personnel of our Investment Adviser for our future success. • Our ability to grow depends on our ability to raise additional capital. • We borrow money, which may magnify the potential for gain or loss and may increase the risk of investing in us. • We operate in a highly competitive market for investment opportunities. • Our Board of Directors may change our investment objective, operating policies and strategies without prior notice or stockholder approval. • Our Investment Adviser can resign on 60 days' notice. We may not be able to find a suitable replacement within that time, resulting in a disruption in our operations that could adversely affect our financial condition, business and results of operations. • Our ability to enter into transactions with our affiliates is restricted. • We are exposed to risks associated with changes in interest rates. • **We are exposed to risks associated with original issue discount and PIK instruments.** • Our investment strategy focuses on investments in development- stage companies in our Target Industries, which are subject to many risks, including volatility, intense competition, shortened product life cycles and periodic downturns, and would be rated below " investment grade. " • The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business. • Declines in market prices and liquidity in the corporate debt markets can result in significant net unrealized depreciation of our portfolio, which in turn would affect our results of operations. • Investing in our common stock involves an above average degree of risk. • **Most of our portfolio companies will need additional capital, which may not be readily available.**

26Risks Related to our Adviser and Affiliates We are dependent upon key personnel of our Advisor and our Advisor's ability to hire and retain qualified personnel. We do not have any employees and are dependent upon the members of our Advisor's senior management, as well as other key personnel for the identification, evaluation, final selection, structuring, closing and monitoring of our investments. These employees have critical industry experience and relationships that we rely on to implement our business plan to originate Venture Loans in our Target Industries. Our future success depends on the continued service of the senior members of our Advisor's management team. If our Advisor were to lose the services of any of the senior members of our Advisor's management team, we may not be able to operate our business as we expect, and our ability to compete could be harmed, either of which could cause our business, results of operations or financial condition to suffer. In addition, if any two of the ~~three~~ **four** of Mr. Pomeroy, our Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Michaud, our President, **Mr. Devorsetz, our Chief Investment Officer** or Mr. Trolio, our Chief Financial Officer, ceases to be actively involved with us or our Advisor, and is not replaced by an individual satisfactory to Key within 90 days, Key could, absent a waiver or cure, demand repayment of any outstanding obligations under the Key Facility. If any two of the four of Mr. Pomeroy, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Trolio or Mr. Devorsetz, ~~our Chief Investment Officer,~~ ceases to be actively involved with us, the NYL Noteholders could, absent a waiver or cure, redeem any outstanding obligations under the NYL Facility. In such an event, if we do not have sufficient cash to repay our outstanding obligations, we may be required to sell investments which, due to their illiquidity, may be difficult to sell on favorable terms or at all. We may also be unable to make new investments, cover our existing obligations to extend credit or meet other obligations as they come due, which could adversely impact our results of operations. Our future success also depends, in part, on our Advisor's ability to identify, attract and retain sufficient numbers of highly skilled employees. If our Advisor is not successful in identifying, attracting and retaining such employees, we may not be able to operate our business as we expect. In addition, our Advisor may in the future manage investment funds with investment objectives similar to ours thereby diverting the time and attention of its investment professionals that we rely on to implement our business plan. Our Advisor may change or be restructured. We cannot assure you that the Advisor will remain our investment adviser or that we will continue to have access to our Advisor's investment professionals or its relationships. We would be required to obtain shareholder approval for a new investment management agreement in the event that (1) the Advisor resigns as our investment adviser or (2) a change of control or deemed change of control of the Advisor occurs. We cannot provide assurance that a new investment management agreement or new investment adviser would provide the same or equivalent services on the same or on as favorable of terms as the Investment Management Agreement or the Advisor. Our Advisor may, from time to time, possess material non- public information regarding our portfolio companies, limiting our investment discretion. Officers and employees of our Advisor may serve as directors of, or in a similar capacity with, our portfolio companies, the securities of which are purchased or sold on our behalf. If we obtain material non- public information with respect to such portfolio companies, or we become subject to trading restrictions under the internal trading policies of those portfolio companies or as a result of applicable law or regulations, we could be prohibited for a period of time from purchasing or disposing of the securities of such portfolio companies, and this prohibition may have an adverse effect on us. Our Advisor has significant potential conflicts of interest with us and our stockholders. As a result of our arrangements with our Advisor, there may be times when our Advisor has interests that differ from those of our stockholders, giving rise to a potential conflict of interest. Our executive officers and directors, as well as the current and future executives and employees of our Advisor, serve or may serve as officers, directors or principals of entities that operate in the same or a related line of business as we do. Accordingly, they may have obligations to investors in those entities, the fulfillment of which might not be in the best interests of our stockholders. In addition, obligations to these other entities may cause our executive officers and directors and those of our Advisor to divert their time and attention away

from us or otherwise cause them not to dedicate a significant portion of their time to our businesses which could slow our rate of investment. 27In addition, our Advisor manages other funds, and may manage additional funds in the future, that have investment objectives that are similar, in whole or in part, to ours. Our Advisor may determine that an investment is appropriate for us and for one or more of those other funds. In such an event, depending on the availability of the investment and other appropriate factors, our Advisor will endeavor to allocate investment opportunities in a fair and equitable manner and act in accordance with its written allocation policy to address and, if necessary, resolve any conflict of interests. It is also possible that we may not be given the opportunity to participate in these other investment opportunities. We pay management and incentive fees to our Advisor and reimburse our Advisor for certain expenses it incurs. As a result, investors in our common stock invest on a “ gross ” basis and receive distributions on a “ net ” basis after expenses, resulting in a lower rate of return than an investor might achieve through direct investments. Also, the incentive fee payable by us to our Advisor may create an incentive for our Advisor to pursue investments on our behalf that are riskier or more speculative than would be the case in the absence of such compensation arrangements. In addition, if any of the other funds managed by our Advisor have a different fee structure than we do, our Advisor may, in certain circumstances, have an incentive to devote more time and resources, and / or recommend the allocation of investment opportunities, to such fund. For example, to the extent our Advisor’ s incentive compensation is not subject to a total return requirement with respect to another fund, it may have an incentive to devote time and resources to such fund. We have entered into a license agreement with **HTF-MCH Holdco** pursuant to which it has agreed to grant us a non-exclusive, royalty- free right and license to use the service mark “ Horizon Technology Finance. ” Under this agreement, we have a right to use the “ Horizon Technology Finance ” service mark for so long as the Investment Management Agreement is in effect between us and our Advisor. In addition, we pay our Advisor, our allocable portion of overhead and other expenses incurred by our Advisor in performing its obligations under the Administration Agreement, including rent, the fees and expenses associated with performing compliance functions, and our allocable portion of the compensation of our Chief Financial Officer and Chief Compliance Officer and their respective staffs. Any potential conflict of interest arising as a result of our arrangements with our Advisor could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. Our incentive fee may impact our Advisor’ s structuring of our investments, including by causing our Advisor to pursue speculative investments. The incentive fee payable by us to our Advisor may create an incentive for our Advisor to pursue investments on our behalf that are riskier or more speculative than would be the case in the absence of such compensation arrangement. The incentive fee payable to our Advisor is calculated based on a percentage of our return on invested capital. This may encourage our Advisor to use leverage to increase the return on our investments. Under certain circumstances, the use of leverage may increase the likelihood of default, which would impair the value of our common stock. In addition, our Advisor receives the incentive fee based, in part, upon net capital gains realized on our investments. Unlike that portion of the incentive fee based on income, there is no hurdle rate applicable to the portion of the incentive fee based on net capital gains. As a result, our Advisor may have an incentive to invest more capital in investments that are likely to result in capital gains as compared to income- producing securities. Such a practice could result in our investing in more speculative investments than would otherwise be the case, which could result in higher investment losses, particularly during economic downturns. In addition, the incentive fee may encourage our Advisor to pursue different types of investments or structure investments in ways that are more likely to result in warrant gains or gains on equity investments, including upon exercise of equity participation rights, which are inconsistent with our investment strategy and disciplined underwriting process. The incentive fee payable by us to our Advisor may also induce our Advisor to pursue investments on our behalf that have a deferred interest feature, even if such deferred payments would not provide cash necessary to enable us to pay current distributions to our stockholders. Under these investments, we would accrue interest over the life of the investment but would not receive the cash income from the investment until the end of the term. Our net investment income used to calculate the income portion of our investment fee, however, includes accrued interest. Thus, a portion of this incentive fee would be based on income that we have not yet received in cash. In addition, the “ catch- up ” portion of the incentive fee may encourage our Advisor to accelerate or defer interest payable by portfolio companies from one calendar quarter to another, potentially resulting in fluctuations in the timing and amounts of distributions. Our governing documents do not limit the number of debt investments we may make with deferred interest features or the proportion of our income we derive from such debt investments. 28Our ability to enter into transactions with our affiliates is restricted, which may limit the scope of investments available to us. We are prohibited under the 1940 Act from participating in certain transactions with our affiliates without the prior approval of our independent directors and, in some cases, of the SEC. Any person that owns, directly or indirectly, 5 % or more of our outstanding voting securities is our affiliate for purposes of the 1940 Act, and we are generally prohibited from buying or selling any security from or to, or entering into certain “ joint ” transactions (which could include investments in the same portfolio company) with, such affiliates, absent the prior approval of our independent directors or, in certain cases, the SEC. Our Advisor is considered to be our affiliate under the 1940 Act, as is any person that controls, or is under common control with us or our Advisor. We are generally prohibited from buying or selling any security from or to, or entering into “ joint ” transactions with, such affiliates without prior approval of our independent directors and, in some cases, exemptive relief from the SEC. We may, however, invest alongside other clients of our Advisor in certain circumstances where doing so is consistent with applicable law, SEC staff interpretations and / or exemptive relief issued by the SEC. For example, we may invest alongside such accounts consistent with guidance promulgated by the staff of the SEC permitting us and such other accounts to purchase interests in a single class of privately placed securities so long as certain conditions are met, including that our Advisor, acting on our behalf and on behalf of other clients, negotiates no term other than price. We may also invest alongside our Advisor’ s other clients as otherwise permissible under regulatory guidance and applicable regulations. Such investments will be allocated in accordance with our Advisor’ s allocation policy, and this allocation policy is periodically approved by our Advisor and reviewed by our independent directors. We expect that allocation determinations will be made similarly for other accounts sponsored or managed by our Advisor. If

sufficient securities or loan amounts are available to satisfy our and each such account's proposed demand, we expect that the opportunity will be allocated in accordance with our Advisor's pre-transaction determination; however, if insufficient securities or loan amounts are available, the opportunity will generally be allocated pro rata based on each affiliate's initial allocation in the asset class being allocated. We cannot assure you that investment opportunities will be allocated to us fairly or equitably in the short-term or over time. On November 27, 2017, we were granted exemptive relief from the SEC that permits greater flexibility to negotiate the terms of co-investments if our Board determines in advance that it would be advantageous for us to co-invest with other accounts sponsored or managed by our Advisor in a manner consistent with our investment objective, positions, policies, strategies and restrictions, as well as regulatory requirements and other relevant factors. We cannot assure you, however, that we will develop opportunities that comply with such limitations. In situations where co-investment with other accounts managed by our Advisor is not permitted or appropriate, our Advisor will need to decide which client will proceed with the investment. Our Advisor's allocation policy provides, in such circumstances, for investments to be allocated to assure that all clients have fair and equitable access to such investment opportunities over time. Moreover, except in certain circumstances, we will be unable to invest in any issuer in which a fund managed by our Advisor has previously invested. Similar restrictions limit our ability to transact business with our officers or directors or their affiliates. These restrictions may limit the scope of investment opportunities that would otherwise be available to us. The valuation process for certain of our portfolio holdings creates a conflict of interest. The majority of our portfolio investments are expected to be made in the form of securities that are not publicly traded. As a result, our Advisor, subject to Board oversight, will determine the fair value of these securities in good faith as described above in " — Because many of our investments typically are not and will not be in publicly traded securities, the value of our investments may not be readily determinable, which could adversely affect the determination of our NAV. " In connection with that determination, investment professionals from the Advisor may rely on portfolio company valuations based upon the most recent portfolio company financial statements available and projected financial results of each portfolio company. The participation of the Advisor's investment professionals in our valuation process could result in a conflict of interest as the Advisor's management fee is based, in part, on our gross assets less cash and cash equivalents, and our incentive fees will be based, in part, on unrealized appreciation and depreciation on our investments. 29Our Advisor's liability is limited, and we have agreed to indemnify our Advisor against certain liabilities, which may lead our Advisor to act in a riskier manner on our behalf than it would when acting for its own account. Under the Investment Management Agreement, our Advisor does not assume any responsibility to us other than to render the services called for under that agreement, and it is not responsible for any action of our Board in following or declining to follow our Advisor's advice or recommendations. Under the terms of the Investment Management Agreement, our Advisor, its officers, members, personnel and any person controlling or controlled by our Advisor are not liable to us, any subsidiary of ours, our directors, our stockholders or any subsidiary's stockholders or partners for acts or omissions performed in accordance with and pursuant to the Investment Management Agreement, except those resulting from acts constituting gross negligence, willful misconduct, bad faith or reckless disregard of our Advisor's duties under the Investment Management Agreement. In addition, we have agreed to indemnify our Advisor and each of its officers, directors, members, managers and employees from and against any claims or liabilities, including reasonable legal fees and other expenses reasonably incurred, arising out of or in connection with our business and operations or any action taken or omitted on our behalf pursuant to authority granted by the Investment Management Agreement, except where attributable to gross negligence, willful misconduct, bad faith or reckless disregard of such person's duties under the Investment Management Agreement. These protections may lead our Advisor to act in a riskier manner when acting on our behalf than it would when acting for its own account. We cannot predict how new tax legislation will affect us, our investments, or our stockholders, and any such legislation could adversely affect our business. Legislative or other actions relating to taxes could have a negative effect on us. The rules dealing with U. S. federal income taxation are constantly under review by persons involved in the legislative process and by the Internal Revenue Service and the U. S. Treasury Department. The Biden Administration has proposed significant changes to the existing U. S. tax rules, and there are a number of proposals in Congress that would similarly modify the existing U. S. tax rules. The likelihood of any such legislation being enacted is uncertain, but new legislation and any U. S. Treasury regulations, administrative interpretations or court decisions interpreting such legislation could significantly and negatively affect our ability to qualify for tax treatment as a RIC or the U. S. federal income tax consequences to us and our stockholders of such qualification, or could have other adverse consequences. Stockholders are urged to consult with their tax advisor regarding tax legislative, regulatory, or administrative developments and proposals and their potential effect on an investment in our common stock. If we are unable to manage our future growth effectively, we may be unable to achieve our investment objective, which could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition and cause the value of your investment in us to decline. Our ability to achieve our investment objective depends on our ability to achieve and sustain growth, which depends, in turn, on our Advisor's direct origination capabilities and disciplined underwriting process in identifying, evaluating, financing, investing in and monitoring suitable companies that meet our investment criteria. Accomplishing this result on a cost-effective basis is largely a function of our Advisor's marketing capabilities, management of the investment process, ability to provide efficient services and access to financing sources on acceptable terms. In addition to monitoring the performance of our existing investments, our Advisor may also be called upon to provide managerial assistance to our portfolio companies. These demands on their time may distract them or slow the rate of investment. If we fail to manage our future growth effectively, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially adversely affected and the value of your investment in us could decrease. 30Our business plan and growth strategy depend to a significant extent upon our Advisor's referral relationships. If our Advisor is unable to develop new or maintain existing relationships, or if these relationships fail to generate investment opportunities, our business could be materially adversely affected. We have historically depended on our Advisor's referral relationships to generate investment opportunities. For us to achieve our future business objectives, members of our Advisor need to maintain these relationships with venture

capital and private equity firms and management teams and legal firms, accounting firms, investment banks and other lenders, and we rely to a significant extent upon these relationships to provide us with investment opportunities. If they fail to maintain their existing relationships or develop new relationships with other firms or sources of investment opportunities, we may not be able to grow our investment portfolio. In addition, persons with whom our Advisor has relationships are not obligated to provide us with investment opportunities, and, therefore, there is no assurance that such relationships will lead to the origination of debt or other investments. Under our Investment Management Agreement and our Administration Agreement, our Advisor has the right to resign at any time, upon not more than 60 days' written notice, whether we have found a replacement or not. If our Advisor resigns, we may not be able to find a new investment adviser or administrator or hire internal management with similar expertise and ability to provide the same or equivalent services on acceptable terms within 60 days, or at all. If we are unable to do so, our operations are likely to be disrupted, our business, results of operations and financial condition and our ability to pay distributions may be adversely affected and the market price of our shares may decline. In addition, the coordination of our internal management and investment activities is likely to suffer if we are unable to identify and reach an agreement with a single institution or group of executives having the expertise possessed by our Advisor and its affiliates. Even if we are able to retain comparable management, whether internal or external, the integration of new management and their lack of familiarity with our investment objective may result in additional costs and time delays that may adversely affect our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Risks Related to Our Investments Our stockholders are not able to evaluate our future investments. Our future investments will be selected by our Advisor, subject to the approval of its investment committee. Our stockholders do not have input into our Advisor's investment decisions. As a result, our stockholders are unable to evaluate any of our future portfolio company investments. These factors increase the uncertainty, and thus the risk, of investing in our securities. We are a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, and therefore we generally are not limited with respect to the proportion of our assets that may be invested in securities of a single issuer. We are classified as a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, which means that we are not limited by the 1940 Act with respect to the proportion of our assets that we may invest in securities of a single issuer, excluding limitations on stake holdings in investment companies. Beyond our income tax diversification requirements, we do not have fixed guidelines for diversification, and our investments could be focused on relatively few portfolio companies. Although we are classified as a non-diversified investment company within the meaning of the 1940 Act, we maintain the flexibility to operate as a diversified investment company and have done so for an extended period of time. To the extent that we continue to operate as a non-diversified investment company in the future, we may be subject to greater risk. To the extent that we assume large positions in the securities of a small number of issuers, our NAV may fluctuate to a greater extent than that of a diversified investment company as a result of changes in the financial condition or the market's assessment of the issuer. If a significant investment in one or more portfolio companies fails to perform as expected, our financial results could be more negatively affected and the magnitude of the loss could be more significant than if we had made smaller investments in more portfolio companies. We may also be more susceptible to any single economic or regulatory occurrence than a diversified investment company. 31 Our portfolio may be focused on a limited number of industries, which will subject us to a risk of significant loss if there is a downturn in a particular industry. Our portfolio may be focused on a limited number of industries. As a result, a downturn in any particular industry in which we are invested could also significantly impact the aggregate returns we realize. Our Target Industries are susceptible to changes in government policy and economic assistance, which could adversely affect the returns we receive.

Elevated interest rates affect our portfolio companies in a number of important and deleterious ways. Portfolio companies that did not anticipate either the rapidity of the increase in interest rates or the current rate level may have to adjust their business plan and operations to meet their debt obligations. Additionally, in the current elevated interest rate environment, venture capital funds may have greater difficulty raising capital to deploy. As such, there is less available capital for our portfolio companies to fund growth or extend their runways while developing their products, including, but not limited to, receiving approvals from government agencies. Without the injection of new venture capital, these companies are more likely to fail, potentially resulting in the loss of all or part of our investment. If our investments do not meet our performance expectations, you may not receive distributions. We intend to make distributions of income on a monthly basis to our stockholders. We may not be able to achieve operating results that will allow us to make distributions at a specific level or increase the amount of these distributions from time to time. In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us as a BDC, we may be limited in our ability to make distributions. Also, restrictions and provisions in any existing or future credit facilities may limit our ability to make distributions. If we do not distribute a certain percentage of our income each tax year as dividends to stockholders, we will suffer adverse tax consequences, including the possible loss of our ability to be subject to tax as a RIC. ~~Most of our portfolio companies will need additional capital, which may not be readily available.~~ Our portfolio companies typically require substantial additional financing to satisfy their continuing working capital and other capital requirements and service the interest and principal payments on our investments. We cannot predict the circumstances or market conditions under which our portfolio companies will seek additional capital. Each round of institutional equity financing is typically intended to provide a company with only enough capital to reach the next stage of development. It is possible that one or more of our portfolio companies will not be able to raise additional financing or may be able to do so only at a price or on terms that are unfavorable to the portfolio company, either of which would negatively impact our investment returns. Some of these companies may be unable to obtain sufficient financing from private investors, public capital markets or lenders, thereby requiring these companies to cease or curtail business operations. Accordingly, investing in these types of companies generally entails a higher risk of loss than investing in companies that do not have significant incremental capital raising requirements. Our failure to make follow-on investments in our portfolio companies could impair the value of our portfolio. Following an initial investment in a portfolio company, we may have opportunities to make additional investments in that portfolio company as "follow-on" investments, in seeking to: • increase or maintain in whole or in part our position as a

creditor or equity ownership percentage in a portfolio company; • exercise warrants, options or convertible securities that were acquired in the original or subsequent financing; or • preserve or enhance the value of our investment. We have discretion to make follow- on investments, subject to the availability of capital resources. Failure on our part to make follow- on investments may, in some circumstances, jeopardize the continued viability of a portfolio company and our initial investment, or may result in a missed opportunity for us to increase our participation in a successful portfolio company. Even if we have sufficient capital to make a desired follow- on investment, we may elect not to make a follow- on investment because we may not want to increase our level of risk, because we prefer other opportunities or because of regulatory or other considerations. Our ability to make follow- on investments may also be limited by our Advisors' allocation policy. Further, follow- on investments are subject to burdensome restrictions under the 1940 Act if an affiliated fund is already invested in a portfolio company. Such restrictions could prevent us from capitalizing on an otherwise attractive opportunity. ³²Economic recessions or downturns could adversely affect our business and that of our portfolio companies which may have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. General economic conditions may affect our activities and the operation and value of our portfolio companies. Economic slowdowns or recessions may result in a decrease of institutional equity investment, which would limit our lending opportunities. Furthermore, many of our portfolio companies are susceptible to economic or industry centric slowdowns or recessions and may be unable to repay our debt investments during these periods. Therefore, our non- performing assets are likely to increase and the value of our portfolio is likely to decrease during these periods. Adverse economic conditions may also decrease the value of collateral securing some of our debt investments and the value of our equity investments. Economic slowdowns or recessions could lead to financial losses in our portfolio and a material decrease in revenues, net income and assets. Unfavorable economic conditions could also increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. A portfolio company' s failure to satisfy financial or operating covenants imposed by us or other lenders could lead to defaults and, potentially, termination of its loans and foreclosure on its secured assets, which could trigger cross- defaults under other agreements and jeopardize the portfolio company' s ability to meet its obligations under the loans that we hold. We may incur expenses to the extent necessary to recover our investment upon default or to negotiate new terms with a defaulting portfolio company. These events could harm our financial condition and operating results. A period of market disruption may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows. In addition, unfavorable economic conditions, including rising interest rates, may also increase our funding costs, limit our access to capital markets or negatively impact our ability to obtain financing, particularly from the debt markets. We intend to invest, under normal circumstances, most of the value of our total assets (including the amount of any borrowings for investment purposes) in development- stage companies, which may have relatively limited operating histories, in our Target Industries. Many of these companies may have narrow product lines and small market shares, compared to larger established, publicly owned firms, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and market conditions, as well as general economic downturns. The revenues, income (or losses) and valuations of development- stage companies in our Target Industries can and often do fluctuate suddenly and dramatically. For these reasons, investments in our portfolio companies, if rated by one or more ratings agency, would typically be rated below " investment grade, " which refers to securities rated by ratings agencies below the four highest rating categories. These companies may also have more limited access to capital and higher funding costs. **In volatile interest rate environments, these companies may not have adequate access to funding to meet their capital needs. Consequently, these companies are more likely to face bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings, reducing the return on, or the recovery of, our investment. This could, in turn, materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations.** In addition, development- stage technology markets are generally characterized by abrupt business cycles and intense competition, and the competitive environment can change abruptly due to rapidly evolving technology. Therefore, our portfolio companies may face considerably more risk than companies in other industry sectors. Accordingly, these factors could impair their cash flow or result in other events, such as bankruptcy, which could limit their ability to repay their obligations to us and may materially adversely affect the return on, or the recovery of, our investments in these businesses. Because of rapid technological change, the average selling prices of products and some services provided by development- stage companies in our Target Industries have historically decreased over their productive lives. These decreases could adversely affect their operating results and cash flow, their ability to meet obligations under their debt securities and the value of their equity securities. This could, in turn, materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Any unrealized depreciation we experience on our debt investments may be an indication of future realized losses, which could reduce our income available for distribution. As a BDC, we are required to carry our investments at fair value, which is the market value of our investments or, if no market value is ascertainable, at the fair value as determined in good faith pursuant to procedures approved by our Board in accordance with our valuation policy. We are not permitted to maintain a reserve for debt investment losses. Decreases in the fair values of our investments, which can occur rapidly based upon developments affecting our portfolio companies, are recorded as unrealized depreciation. Any unrealized depreciation in our debt investments could be an indication of a portfolio company' s inability to meet its repayment obligations to us with respect to the affected debt investments. This could result in realized losses in the future and ultimately reduces our income available for distribution in future periods. ³³If the assets securing the debt investments we make decrease in value, we may not have sufficient collateral to cover losses and may experience losses upon foreclosure. We believe our portfolio companies generally are and will be able to repay our debt investments from their available capital, from future capital- raising transactions or from cash flow from operations. However, to mitigate our credit risks, we typically take a security interest in all or a portion of the assets of our portfolio companies. There is a risk that the collateral securing our debt investments may decrease in value over time, may be difficult to appraise or sell in a timely manner and may fluctuate in value based upon the business and market conditions, including as a result of an inability of the portfolio company to raise additional capital, and, in some circumstances, our lien could be subordinated to claims of other

creditors. In addition, deterioration of a portfolio company's financial condition and prospects, including its inability to raise additional capital, may be accompanied by deterioration of the value of the collateral for the debt investment. Consequently, although such debt investment is secured, we may not receive principal and interest payments according to the debt investment's terms and the value of the collateral may not be sufficient to recover our investment should we be forced to enforce our remedies. In addition, because we invest in development-stage companies in our Target Industries, a substantial portion of the assets securing our investment may be in the form of intellectual property, if any, inventory, equipment, cash and accounts receivables. Intellectual property, if any, which secures a debt investment could lose value if the company's rights to the intellectual property are challenged or if the company's license to the intellectual property is revoked or expires. In addition, in lieu of a security interest in a portfolio company's intellectual property we may sometimes obtain a security interest in all assets of the portfolio company other than intellectual property and also obtain a commitment by the portfolio company not to grant liens to any other creditor on the company's intellectual property. In these cases, we may have additional difficulty recovering our principal in the event of a foreclosure. Similarly, any equipment securing our debt investments may not provide us with the anticipated security if there are changes in technology or advances in new equipment that render the particular equipment obsolete or of limited value or if the company fails to adequately maintain or repair the equipment. Any one or more of the preceding factors could materially impair our ability to recover principal in a foreclosure, which may adversely affect our ability to pay distributions in the future. We may choose to waive or defer enforcement of covenants in the debt securities held in our portfolio, which may cause us to lose all or part of our investment in these companies. We structure the debt investments in our portfolio companies to include business and financial covenants placing affirmative and negative obligations on the operation of such companies' business and financial condition. However, from time to time we may elect to waive breaches of these covenants, including our right to payment, or waive or defer enforcement of remedies, such as acceleration of obligations or foreclosure on collateral, depending upon the financial condition and prospects of the particular portfolio company. These actions may reduce the likelihood of our receiving the full amount of future payments of interest or principal and be accompanied by a deterioration in the value of the underlying collateral as many of these companies may have limited financial resources, may be unable to meet future obligations and may go bankrupt. These events could harm our financial condition and operating results. The lack of liquidity in our investments may adversely affect our business, and if we need to sell any of our investments, we may not be able to do so at a favorable price. As a result, we may suffer losses. We plan to generally invest in debt investments with terms of up to four years and hold such investments until maturity, unless earlier prepaid, and we do not expect that our related holdings of equity securities will provide us with liquidity opportunities in the near-term. We expect to primarily invest in companies whose securities are not publicly-traded, and whose securities are subject to legal and other restrictions on resale or are otherwise less liquid than publicly traded securities. The illiquidity of these investments may make it difficult for us to sell these investments when desired. We may also face other restrictions on our ability to liquidate an investment in a public portfolio company to the extent that we possess material non-public information regarding the portfolio company. In addition, if we are required to liquidate all or a portion of our portfolio quickly, we may realize significantly less than the value at which we had previously recorded these investments. As a result, we do not expect to dispose of our investments in the near term. However, we may be required to do so in order to maintain our qualification as a BDC and as a RIC if we do not satisfy one or more of the applicable criteria under the respective regulatory frameworks. Because most of our investments are illiquid, we may be unable to dispose of them, in which case we could fail to qualify as a RIC and / or BDC, or we may not be able to dispose of them at favorable prices, and as a result, we may suffer losses. 34The disposition of our debt investments may result in contingent liabilities. In connection with the disposition of a debt investment, we may be required to make representations about the business and financial affairs of the portfolio company typical of those made in connection with the sale of a business. We may also be required to indemnify the purchasers of such debt investment to the extent that any such representations turn out to be inaccurate or with respect to potential liabilities. These arrangements may result in contingent liabilities that ultimately result in funding obligations that we must satisfy through our return of distributions previously made to us. Our portfolio companies may incur debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, our investments in such companies. We plan to invest primarily in debt investments issued by our portfolio companies. Some of our portfolio companies are permitted to have other debt that ranks equally with, or senior to, our debt investments in the portfolio company. By their terms, these debt instruments may provide that the holders thereof are entitled to receive payment of interest or principal on or before the dates on which we are entitled to receive payments in respect of our debt investments. These debt instruments may prohibit the portfolio companies from paying interest on or repaying our investments in the event of, and during, the continuance of a default under the debt instruments. In addition, in the event of insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy of a portfolio company, holders of debt instruments ranking senior to our investment in that portfolio company would typically be entitled to receive payment in full before we receive any payment in respect of our investment. After repaying senior creditors, a portfolio company may not have any remaining assets to use for repaying its obligation to us. In the case of debt ranking equally with our debt investments, we would have to share on a pro rata basis any distributions with other creditors holding such debt in the event of an insolvency, liquidation, dissolution, reorganization or bankruptcy. There may be circumstances where our debt investments could be subordinated to claims of other creditors, or we could be subject to lender liability claims. Even though certain of our investments are structured as senior debt investments, if one of our portfolio companies were to go bankrupt, depending on the facts and circumstances, including the extent to which we actually provided managerial assistance to that portfolio company, a bankruptcy court might recharacterize our debt investment and subordinate all or a portion of our claim to that of other creditors or an out-of-court restructuring might enable other lenders to become effectively senior to our claims. We may also be subject to lender liability claims for actions taken by us with respect to a portfolio company's business, including in rendering significant managerial assistance, or instances where we exercise control over the portfolio company. An investment strategy that primarily includes investments in privately held companies presents certain challenges, including a lack of available

information about these companies, a dependence on the talents and efforts of only a few key portfolio company personnel and a greater vulnerability to economic downturns. We currently invest, and plan to invest, in privately held companies. Generally, very little public information exists about these companies, and we are required to rely on the ability of our Advisor to obtain adequate information to evaluate the potential returns from investing in these companies. If we are unable to uncover all material information about these companies, we may not make a fully informed investment decision, and we may lose money on our investments. Also, privately held companies frequently have less diverse product lines and a smaller market presence than larger competitors. Thus, they are generally more vulnerable to economic downturns and may experience substantial variations in operating results. These factors could affect our investment returns. In addition, our success depends, in large part, upon the abilities of the key management personnel of our portfolio companies, who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of our portfolio companies. Competition for qualified personnel is intense at any stage of a company's development. The loss of one or more key managers can hinder or delay a company's implementation of its business plan and harm its financial condition. Our portfolio companies may not be able to attract and retain qualified managers and personnel. Any inability to do so may negatively affect our investment returns.

The borrowing needs of our portfolio companies are unpredictable, especially during a challenging economic environment. We may not be able to meet our unfunded commitments to extend credit, which could have a material adverse effect on our reputation in the market and our ability to generate incremental lending activity and may subject us to lender liability claims. A commitment to extend credit is an agreement to lend funds to our portfolio companies as long as there is no violation of any condition established under the agreement. Because of the credit profile of our portfolio companies, we typically have a substantial amount of total unfunded credit commitments, which amount is not reflected on our balance sheet. The actual borrowing needs of our portfolio companies may exceed our expected funding requirements, especially during a challenging economic environment when our portfolio companies may be more dependent on our credit commitments due to the lack of available credit elsewhere, an increasing cost of credit or the limited availability of equity financing from venture capital firms or otherwise. In addition, limited partner investors of some of our portfolio companies may fail to meet their underlying investment commitments due to liquidity or other financing issues, which may increase our portfolio companies' borrowing needs. Any failure to meet our unfunded credit commitments in accordance with the actual borrowing needs of our portfolio companies may have a material adverse effect on our reputation in the market and our ability to generate incremental lending activity and may subject us to lender liability claims. We may hold the debt securities of leveraged companies that may, due to the significant volatility of such companies, experience bankruptcy or similar financial distress. Leveraged companies may experience bankruptcy, receivership or similar financial distress. The debt investments of distressed companies may not produce income, may require us to bear certain expenses or to make additional advances in order to protect our investment and may subject us to uncertainty as to when, in what manner (e. g., through liquidation, reorganization, receivership or bankruptcy) and for what value such distressed debt will eventually be satisfied. Proceeds received from such proceedings may not be income that satisfies the Qualifying Income Test for RICs and may not be in an amount sufficient to repay such expenses or advances. In the event that a plan of reorganization is adopted or a receivership is established, in exchange for the debt investment we currently hold, we may receive non-cash proceeds, including equity securities or license or royalty agreements with contingent payments, which may require significantly more of our management's time and attention. In addition, if we take control of a distressed company in connection with a reorganization, it could require additional costs and significant amounts of our management's time and attention. If a portfolio company enters a bankruptcy process, we will be subject to a number of significant inherent risks. Many events in a bankruptcy proceeding are the product of contested matters and adversarial proceedings and are beyond the control of the creditors. A bankruptcy filing by an issuer may adversely and permanently affect the issuer. If the proceeding is converted to a liquidation, the value of the issuer may not equal the liquidation value that was believed to exist at the time of the investment. The duration of a bankruptcy proceeding is also difficult to predict, and a creditor's return on investment can be adversely affected by delays until the plan of reorganization or liquidation ultimately becomes effective. The administrative costs of a bankruptcy proceeding are frequently high and would be paid out of the debtor's estate prior to any return to creditors. Because the standards for classification of claims under bankruptcy law are vague, our influence with respect to the class of securities or other obligations we own may be lost by increases in the number and amount of claims in the same class or by different classification and treatment. In the early stages of the bankruptcy process, it is often difficult to estimate the extent of, or even to identify, any contingent claims that might be made. In addition, certain claims that have priority by law (for example, claims for taxes) may be substantial.

We may be forced to write down the fair market value of investments we hold in companies experiencing bankruptcy proceedings or other financial distress.

36Prepayments of our debt investments by our portfolio companies could adversely impact our results of operations and reduce our return on equity. We are subject to the risk that the investments we make in our portfolio companies may be repaid prior to maturity. For example, most of our debt investments have historically been repaid prior to maturity by our portfolio companies. At the time of a liquidity event, such as a sale of the business, refinancing or public offering, many of our portfolio companies have availed themselves of the opportunity to repay our debt investments prior to maturity. Our investments generally allow for repayment at any time subject to certain penalties. When this occurs, we generally reinvest these proceeds in temporary investments, pending their future investment in new portfolio companies. These temporary investments have substantially lower yields than the debt being repaid, and we could experience significant delays in reinvesting these amounts. Any future investment in a new portfolio company may also be at lower yields than the debt that was repaid. As a result, our results of operations could be materially adversely affected if one or more of our portfolio companies elects to prepay amounts owed to us. Additionally, prepayments could negatively impact our return on equity, which could result in a decline in the market price of our common stock. Our business and growth strategy could be adversely affected if government regulations, priorities and resources impacting the industries in which our portfolio companies operate change. Some of our portfolio companies operate in industries that are highly regulated by federal, state and /

or local agencies. Changes in existing laws, rules or regulations, or judicial or administrative interpretations thereof, or uncertainty regarding such changes or new laws, rules or regulations could have an adverse impact on the business and industries of our portfolio companies. In addition, changes in government priorities or limitations on government resources could also adversely impact our portfolio companies. We are unable to predict whether any such changes in laws, rules or regulations will occur and, if they do occur, the impact of these changes on our portfolio companies and our investment returns. Our portfolio companies operating in the technology industry are subject to risks particular to that industry. As part of our investment strategy, we have invested, and plan to invest in the future, in companies in the technology industry. Such portfolio companies face intense competition as their businesses are rapidly evolving and intensely competitive, and are subject to changing technology, shifting user needs, and frequent introductions of new products and services. The growth of certain technology sectors in which we focus (such as communications, networking, data storage, software, cloud computing, and internet and media) into a variety of new fields implicates new regulatory issues and may result in our portfolio companies in such sectors being subject to new regulations. Portfolio companies in the technology industry may also have a limited number of suppliers of necessary components or a limited number of manufacturers for their products, and therefore face a risk of disruption to their manufacturing process if they are unable to find alternative suppliers when needed. In addition, litigation regarding intellectual property rights is common in the sectors of the technology industry in which we focus. See “ – If our portfolio companies are unable to protect their intellectual property rights, our business and prospects could be harmed, and if portfolio companies are required to devote significant resources to protecting their intellectual property rights, the value of our investment could be reduced. ” Any of these factors could materially and adversely affect the operations of a portfolio company in this industry and, in turn, impair our ability to timely collect principal and interest payments owed to us. Our portfolio companies operating in the life science industry are subject to extensive government regulation and certain other risks particular to that industry. As part of our investment strategy, we have invested, and plan to invest in the future, in companies in the life science industry. Such portfolio companies are subject to extensive regulation by the Food and Drug Administration and to a lesser extent, other federal and state agencies. If any of these portfolio companies fail to comply with applicable regulations, they could be subject to significant penalties and claims that could materially and adversely affect their operations. In addition, new laws, regulations or judicial interpretations of existing laws and regulations might adversely affect a portfolio company in this industry. 37The successful and timely implementation of the business model of life science companies depends on their ability to adapt to changing technologies and introduce new products. The success of new product offerings will depend, in turn, on many factors, including the ability to properly anticipate and satisfy customer needs, obtain regulatory approvals on a timely basis, develop and manufacture products in an economic and timely manner, obtain or maintain advantageous positions with respect to intellectual property, and differentiate products from those of competitors. Further, the development of products (including medical devices or drugs) by life science companies requires significant research and development, clinical trials and regulatory approvals. The results of product development efforts may be affected by a number of factors, including the ability to innovate, develop and manufacture new products, complete clinical trials, obtain regulatory approvals and reimbursement by insurers in the United States (including Medicare and Medicaid) and abroad, or gain and maintain market approval of products. In addition, patents attained by others can preclude or delay the commercialization of a product. There can be no assurance that any products now in development will achieve technological feasibility, obtain regulatory approval, or gain market acceptance. Failure can occur at any point in the development process, including after significant funds have been invested. Products may fail to reach the market or may have only limited commercial success because of efficacy or safety concerns, failure to achieve positive clinical outcomes, inability to obtain necessary regulatory approvals, failure to achieve market adoption, limited scope of approved uses, excessive costs to manufacture, failure to establish or maintain intellectual property rights, infringement by others of a company’s intellectual property rights, or infringement by a company of intellectual property rights of others. Portfolio companies in the life science industry may also have a limited number of suppliers of necessary components or a limited number of manufacturers for their products, and therefore face a risk of disruption to their manufacturing process if they are unable to find alternative suppliers when needed. Any of these factors could materially and adversely affect the operations of a portfolio company in this industry and, in turn, impair our ability to timely collect principal and interest payments owed to us. Our portfolio companies operating in the healthcare information and services industry are subject to extensive government regulation and certain other risks particular to that industry. As part of our investment strategy, we have invested, and plan to invest in the future, in companies in the healthcare information and services industry. Such portfolio companies provide technology to companies that are subject to extensive regulation, including Medicare and Medicaid payment rules and regulation, the False Claims Act and federal and state laws regarding the collection, use and disclosure of patient health information and the storage, handling and administration of pharmaceuticals. If any of our portfolio companies or the companies to which they provide such technology fail to comply with applicable regulations, they could be subject to significant penalties and claims that could materially and adversely affect their operations. Portfolio companies in the healthcare information or services industry are also subject to the risk that changes in applicable regulations will render their technology obsolete or less desirable in the marketplace. Portfolio companies in the healthcare information and services industry may also have a limited number of suppliers of necessary components or a limited number of manufacturers for their products, and therefore face a risk of disruption to their manufacturing process if they are unable to find alternative suppliers when needed. Any of these factors could materially and adversely affect the operations of a portfolio company in this industry and, in turn, impair our ability to timely collect principal and interest payments owed to us. Our investments in the sustainability industry are subject to many risks, including volatility, intense competition, unproven technologies, periodic downturns and potential litigation. Our investments in sustainability companies are subject to substantial operational risks, such as underestimated cost projections, unanticipated operation and maintenance expenses, loss of government subsidies, and inability to deliver cost-effective alternative energy solutions compared to traditional energy products. In addition, energy companies employ a variety of means

of increasing cash flow, including increasing utilization of existing facilities, expanding operations through new construction or acquisitions, or securing additional long-term contracts. Thus, some energy companies may be subject to construction risk, acquisition risk or other risks arising from their specific business strategies. Furthermore, production levels for solar, wind and other renewable energies may be dependent upon adequate sunlight, wind, or biogas production, which can vary from market to market and period to period, resulting in volatility in production levels and profitability. In addition, our sustainability companies may have narrow product lines and small market shares, which tend to render them more vulnerable to competitors' actions and market conditions, as well as to general economic downturns. The revenues, income (or losses) and valuations of sustainability companies can and often do fluctuate suddenly and dramatically and the markets in which sustainability companies operate are generally characterized by abrupt business cycles and intense competition. Demand for sustainability and renewable energy is also influenced by the available supply and prices for other energy products, such as coal, oil and natural gas. A decrease in prices in these energy products could reduce demand for alternative energy. Sustainability companies face potential litigation, including significant warranty and product liability claims, as well as class action and government claims. Such litigation could adversely affect the business and results of operations of our sustainability portfolio companies. 38 Sustainability companies are subject to extensive government regulation and certain other risks particular to the sectors in which they operate and our business and growth strategy could be adversely affected if government regulations, priorities and resources impacting such sectors change or if our portfolio companies fail to comply with such regulations. As part of our investment strategy we invest in portfolio companies in sustainability sectors that may be subject to extensive regulation by foreign, U. S. federal, state and / or local agencies. Changes in existing laws, rules or regulations, or judicial or administrative interpretations thereof, uncertainty regarding such changes or new laws, rules or regulations could have an adverse impact on the business and industries of our portfolio companies. In addition, changes in government priorities or limitations on government resources could also adversely impact our portfolio companies. We are unable to predict whether any such changes in laws, rules or regulations will occur and, if they do occur, the impact of these changes on our portfolio companies and our investment returns. Furthermore, if any of our portfolio companies fail to comply with applicable regulations, they could be subject to significant penalties and claims that could materially and adversely affect their operations. Our portfolio companies may be subject to the expense, delay and uncertainty of the regulatory approval process for their products and, even if approved, these products may not be accepted in the marketplace. In particular, there is considerable uncertainty about whether foreign, U. S., state and / or local governmental entities will enact or maintain legislation or regulatory programs that mandate reductions in greenhouse gas emissions or provide incentives for sustainability companies. Without such regulatory policies, investments in sustainability companies may not be economical and financing for sustainability companies may become unavailable, which could materially adversely affect the ability of our portfolio companies to repay the debt they owe to us. Any of these factors could materially and adversely affect the operations and financial condition of a portfolio company and, in turn, the ability of the portfolio company to repay the debt they owe to us. If our portfolio companies are unable to commercialize their technologies, products, business concepts or services, the returns on our investments could be adversely affected. The value of our investments in our portfolio companies may decline if our portfolio companies are not able to commercialize their technology, products, business concepts or services. Additionally, although some of our portfolio companies may already have a commercially successful product or product line at the time of our investment, technology-related products and services often have a more limited market or life span than products in other industries. Thus, the ultimate success of these companies often depends on their ability to innovate continually in increasingly competitive markets. If they are unable to do so, our investment returns could be adversely affected and their ability to service their debt obligations to us over the life of a loan could be impaired. Our portfolio companies may be unable to acquire or develop successful new technologies and the intellectual property they currently hold may not remain viable. Even if our portfolio companies are able to develop commercially viable products, the market for new products and services is highly competitive and rapidly changing. Neither our portfolio companies nor we have any control over the pace of technology development. Commercial success is difficult to predict, and the marketing efforts of our portfolio companies may not be successful. Our portfolio companies may rely upon licenses for all or part of their intellectual property. A portfolio company may license all or part of its intellectual property from another unrelated party. While the portfolio company may continue development on that licensed intellectual property, it can be difficult to ascertain who has title to the intellectual property. We may also rely upon the portfolio company's management team's representations as to the nature of the licensing agreement. There are implications in workouts and in bankruptcy where intellectual property is not wholly owned by a portfolio company. Further, the licensor may have an actual or contingent claim on the intellectual property (for instance, a payment due upon change in control) that would supersede other claims in that asset in certain situations. 39 Our future success and competitive position depends in part upon the ability of our portfolio companies to obtain, maintain and protect proprietary technology used in their products and services. The intellectual property held by our portfolio companies often represents a substantial portion of the collateral securing our investments and / or constitutes a significant portion of the portfolio companies' value that may be available in a downside scenario to repay our debt investments. Our portfolio companies rely, in part, on patent, trade secret and trademark law to protect that technology, but competitors may misappropriate their intellectual property, and disputes as to ownership of intellectual property may arise. Portfolio companies may, from time to time, be required to institute litigation to enforce their patents, copyrights or other intellectual property rights, protect their trade secrets, determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others or defend against claims of infringement. Such litigation could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources. Similarly, if a portfolio company is found to infringe or misappropriate a third party's patent or other proprietary rights, it could be required to pay damages to the third party, alter its products or processes, obtain a license from the third party and / or cease activities utilizing the proprietary rights, including making or selling products utilizing the proprietary rights. Any of the foregoing events could negatively affect both the portfolio company's ability to service our debt investment and the value of any related debt and equity securities that we own, as well as the value of any collateral securing our

investment. In some cases, we collateralize our debt investments with a secured collateral position in a portfolio company's assets, which may include a negative pledge or, to a lesser extent, no security interest on their intellectual property. In the event of a default on a debt investment, the intellectual property of the portfolio company would most likely be liquidated to provide proceeds to pay the creditors of the portfolio company. There can be no assurance that our security interest, if any, in the proceeds of the intellectual property will be enforceable in a court of law or bankruptcy court or that there will not be others with senior or pari passu credit interests. We do not expect to control any of our portfolio companies. Generally, we do not control, or expect to control in the future, any of our portfolio companies, even though our debt agreements may contain certain restrictive covenants that limit the business and operations of our portfolio companies. We also do not maintain, or intend to maintain in the future, a control position to the extent we own equity interests in any portfolio company. As a result, we are subject to the risk that a portfolio company in which we invest may make business decisions with which we disagree and the management of such company, as representatives of the holders of their common equity, may take risks or otherwise act in ways that do not serve our interests as debt investors. Due to the lack of liquidity of the investments that we typically hold in our portfolio companies, we may not be able to dispose of our investments in the event we disagree with the actions of a portfolio company and we may therefore, suffer a decrease in the value of our investments. We may invest in foreign portfolio companies or secure our investments with the assets of our portfolio companies' foreign subsidiaries. We may invest in securities of foreign companies. Additionally, certain debt investments consisting of secured loans to portfolio companies with headquarters and primary operations located within the United States may be secured by the assets of a portfolio company's foreign subsidiary. Investments involving foreign companies may involve greater risks. These risks include: (i) less publicly available information; (ii) varying levels of governmental regulation and supervision; and (iii) the difficulty of enforcing legal rights in a foreign jurisdiction and uncertainties as to the status, interpretation and application of laws. Moreover, foreign companies are generally not subject to uniform accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to United States companies. Debt investments secured by the assets of a portfolio company's foreign subsidiary may be subject to various laws enacted in their home countries for the protection of debtors or creditors, which could adversely affect our ability to recover amounts owed. These insolvency considerations will differ depending on the country in which each foreign subsidiary is located and may differ depending on whether the foreign subsidiary is a non- sovereign or a sovereign entity. The economies of individual non- U. S. countries may also differ from the U. S. economy in such respects as growth of gross domestic product, rate of inflation, volatility of currency exchange rates, depreciation, capital reinvestment, resources self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Accordingly, debt investments secured by the assets of a portfolio company's foreign subsidiary could face risks which would not pertain to debt investments solely in U. S. portfolio companies. 40We may not realize expected returns on warrants received in connection with our debt investments. As discussed above, we generally receive warrants in connection with our debt investments. If we do not receive the returns that are anticipated on the warrants, our investment returns on our portfolio companies, and the value of your investment in us, may be lower than expected. We currently invest a portion of our capital in high- quality short- term investments, which generate lower rates of return than those expected from investments made in accordance with our investment objective. We currently invest a portion of our capital in cash, cash equivalents, U. S. government securities, money market funds and other high- quality short- term investments. These securities may earn yields substantially lower than the income that we anticipate receiving once these proceeds are fully invested in accordance with our investment objective. **We are subject to risks associated with investments having original issue discount ("OID") ETPs and / or PIK features. To the extent that we make investments having or OID, ETP or PIK features and the accretion of original issue discount or PIK interest income constitutes a portion of our income, we will be exposed to risks associated with the requirement to include such non- cash income in taxable and accounting income prior to receipt of cash, including the following: • investments having PIK features may reflect the increased credit risk associated with such investments, and PIK instruments may represent a significantly higher credit risk than investments which regularly pay interest in cash; • OID and PIK features may have unreliable valuations because the accruals of such require judgments about collectability of cash from OID and PIK; • adding PIK interest payments to the principal of investments increases our investment income which increases our net assets and, as such, increases the Adviser's base management fees and increases the Adviser's potential income incentive fees at a compounding rate; • market prices of investments with PIK features are affected to a greater extent by interest rate changes, and may be more volatile than investments that pay interest periodically in cash. The fair market value of investments with PIK are generally more volatile than cash pay securities; • the deferral of PIK interest increases the loan- to- value ratio of an investment, which is a measure of the riskiness of a debt investment; • even if the conditions for income accrual under GAAP are satisfied, a borrower could still default when actual payment of ETPs or PIK interest is due upon the maturity of such debt investment; 41 • for accounting purposes, cash distributions to our investors representing OID, ETPs and PIK income do not come from paid- in capital, although they may be paid from the proceeds of our equity sales. Thus, although a distribution of OID, ETP and PIK income may come from the cash invested by investors, the 1940 Act does not require that investors be given notice of this fact; • the required recognition of OID, ETP or PIK interest for U. S. federal income tax purposes may have a negative impact on liquidity, as it represents a non- cash component of our investment company taxable income that may require cash distributions to shareholders in order to maintain our ability to maintain tax treatment as a RIC for U. S. federal income tax purposes; and • OID, ETPs, and PIK may create a risk of non-refundable cash payments to the Adviser based on non- cash accruals that may never be realized. In addition, the part of the incentive fee payable by us to the Adviser that relates to our net investment income is computed and paid on income that may include OID, ETPs, and PIK interest. If a portfolio company defaults on a debt investment that includes OID, ETPs or accrued PIK interest, it is possible that accrued interest previously used in the calculation of the incentive fee will become uncollectible, and the Adviser will have no obligation to refund any fees it received in respect of such**

accrued income. Federal Income Tax Risks If we are unable to satisfy the requirements under the Code for qualification as a RIC, we will be subject to corporate- level income taxes. To qualify as a RIC under the Code, we must meet certain source- of- income and asset diversification requirements contained in Subchapter M of the Code, as well as maintain our election to be regulated as a BDC under the 1940 Act. We must also meet the Annual Distribution Requirement in order to avoid the imposition of corporate- level income taxes on all of our taxable income, regardless of whether we make any distributions to our stockholders. The Qualifying Income Test is satisfied if we derive in each tax year at least 90 % of our gross income from dividends, interest (including tax- exempt interest), payments with respect to certain securities loans, gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities or foreign currencies, other income (including but not limited to gain from options, futures or forward contracts) derived with respect to our business of investing in stock, securities or currencies, or net income derived from interests in “ qualified publicly traded partnerships. ” The status of certain forms of income we receive could be subject to different interpretations under the Code and might be characterized as non- qualifying income that could cause us to fail to qualify as a RIC, assuming we do not qualify for or take advantage of certain remedial provisions, and, thus, may cause us to be subject to corporate- level federal income taxes. To qualify as a RIC, we must also meet the Diversification Tests at the end of each quarter of our tax year. Failure to meet these tests may result in our having to (1) dispose of certain investments quickly; (2) raise additional capital to prevent the loss of RIC status; or (3) engage in certain remedial actions that may entail the disposition of certain investments at disadvantageous prices that could result in substantial losses, and the payment of penalties, if we qualify to take such actions. Because most of our investments are and will be in development- stage companies within our Target Industries, any such dispositions could be made at disadvantageous prices and may result in substantial losses. If we raise additional capital to satisfy the asset diversification requirements, it could take a longer time to invest such capital. During this period, we will invest in temporary investments, such as money market funds, which we expect will earn yields substantially lower than the interest income that we anticipate receiving in respect of our investments in secured and amortizing debt investments. The Annual Distribution Requirement is satisfied if we distribute dividends to our stockholders in each tax year of an amount generally equal to at least 90 % of our investment company taxable income, determined without regard to any deductions for dividends paid. If we borrow money, we may be subject to certain asset coverage requirements under the 1940 Act and loan covenants that could, under certain circumstances, restrict us from making distributions necessary to qualify as a RIC. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources, we may fail to be eligible to be subject to taxation as a RIC, assuming we do not qualify for or take advantage of certain remedial provisions, and, thus, may be subject to corporate- level income taxes. **41f 421f** we were to fail to qualify as a RIC for any reason and become subject to a corporate- level income taxes, the resulting taxes could substantially reduce our net assets, the amount of income available for distribution to our stockholders, and the actual amount of our distributions. Such a failure would have a material adverse effect on us, the NAV of our common stock and the total return, if any, obtainable from your investment in our common stock. In addition, we could be required to recognize unrealized gains, incur substantial taxes and interest and make substantial distributions before requalifying as a RIC. See “ Item 1. Business — Regulation. ” Because we distribute all or substantially all of our investment company taxable income to our stockholders, we will need additional capital to finance our growth. If additional funds are unavailable or not available on favorable terms, our ability to grow will be impaired. To satisfy the requirements applicable to a RIC, to avoid incurring excise taxes and to minimize or to avoid incurring corporate- level federal income taxes, we intend to distribute to our stockholders all or substantially all of our investment company taxable income and net capital gains. However, we may retain all or a portion of our net capital gains, incur any applicable income taxes with respect thereto, and elect to treat such retained net capital gains as deemed distributions to our stockholders. As a BDC, we generally are required to maintain coverage of total assets to total senior securities, which includes all of our borrowings and any preferred stock we may issue in the future, of at least 150 %, subject to certain disclosures. This requirement limits the amount that we may borrow. Because we continue to need capital to grow our debt investment portfolio, this limitation may prevent us from incurring debt and require us to raise additional equity at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so. We cannot assure you that debt and equity financing will be available to us on favorable terms, or at all, and debt financings may be restricted by the terms of any of our outstanding borrowings. In addition, as a BDC, we are limited in our ability to issue equity securities at a price below the then- current NAV per share. If additional funds are not available to us, we could be forced to curtail or cease new lending and investment activities, and our NAV could decline. Because we intend to distribute substantially all of our income to our stockholders to maintain our ability to be subject to tax as a RIC, we will need to raise additional capital to finance our growth. If funds are not available to us, we may need to curtail new investments, and our common stock value could decline. In order to satisfy the requirements to be treated as a RIC for federal income tax purposes, we intend to distribute to our stockholders substantially all of our investment company taxable income and net capital gains each taxable year. However, we may retain all or a portion of our net capital gains and pay applicable income taxes with respect thereto and elect to treat such retained net capital gains as deemed dividend distributions to our stockholders. As a BDC, we are required to meet a 150 % asset coverage ratio, subject to certain disclosure requirements of total assets to total senior securities, which includes all of our borrowings, and any preferred stock we may issue in the future. This requirement limits the amount we may borrow. If the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this test. If that happens, we may be required to sell a portion of our investments or sell additional common stock and, depending on the nature of our leverage, to repay a portion of our indebtedness at a time when such sales and repayments may be disadvantageous. In addition, the issuance of additional securities could dilute the percentage ownership of our current stockholders in us. We may have difficulty paying our required distributions if we recognize taxable income before or without receiving cash. We may be required to recognize taxable income in circumstances in which we do not receive cash. For example, if we hold debt instruments that are treated under applicable tax rules as having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with PIK, or, in certain cases, increasing interest rates or issued with warrants), we must include in taxable income each tax year a portion of the original issue discount that accrues over the life of the debt instrument, regardless of whether cash representing

such income is received by us in the same tax year. We do not have a policy limiting our ability to invest in original issue discount instruments, including PIK debt investments. Because in certain cases we may recognize taxable income before or without receiving cash representing such income, we may have difficulty meeting the Annual Distribution Requirement.

~~42Accordingly~~ **43Accordingly**, we may need to sell some of our assets at times that we would not consider advantageous, raise additional debt or equity capital or forego new investment opportunities or otherwise take actions that are disadvantageous to our business (or be unable to take actions that we believe are necessary or advantageous to our business) in order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement. If we are unable to obtain cash from other sources to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement, we may become subject to a corporate-level income taxes on all of our income. The proportion of our income, consisting of interest and fee income that resulted from the portion of original issue discount classified as such in accordance with GAAP not received in cash for the years ended December 31, **2023**, **2022**, ~~and~~ **2021** ~~and~~ **2020** was **7.0 %**, **11.2 %**, ~~and~~ **9.4 %** ~~and~~ **10.4 %**, respectively. If we make loans to borrowers or acquire loans that contain deferred payment features, such as loans providing for the payment of portions of principal and / or interest at maturity, this could increase the risk of default by our borrowers. Our investments with deferred payment features, such as debt investments providing for ETPs, may represent a higher credit risk than debt investments requiring payments of all principal and accrued interest at regular intervals over the life of the debt investment. For example, even if the accounting conditions for income accrual were met during the period when the obligation was outstanding, the borrower could still default when our actual collection is scheduled to occur upon maturity of the obligation. The amount of ETPs due under our investments having such a feature currently represents a small portion of the applicable borrowers' total repayment obligations under such investments. However, deferred payment arrangements increase the incremental risk that we will not receive a portion of the amount due at maturity. Additionally, because investments with a deferred payment feature may have the effect of deferring a portion of the borrower's payment obligation until maturity of the debt investment, it may be difficult for us to identify and address developing problems with borrowers in terms of their ability to repay us. Any such developments may increase the risk of default on our debt investments by borrowers. In addition, debt investments providing for ETPs are subject to the risks associated with debt investments having original issue discount (such as debt instruments with PIK interest or, in certain cases, increasing interest rates or issued with warrants). See " — We may have difficulty paying our required distributions if we recognize taxable income before or without receiving cash. " Risks Related to Business Development Companies As a BDC, we generally are not able to issue our common stock at a price below the then-current NAV per share without first obtaining the approval of our stockholders and our independent directors. If our common stock trades at a price below NAV per share and we do not receive such approval, our business could be materially adversely affected. As a BDC, we generally are not able to issue our common stock at a price below the then-current NAV per share without first obtaining the approval of our stockholders and our independent directors. Stockholder approval to offer our common stock at a price below NAV per share expired in January 2016, but we may seek such approval again in the future. If our common stock trades at a price below NAV per share and we do not receive approval from our stockholders and our independent directors to issue common stock at a price below NAV per share, we cannot raise capital through the issuance of common stock. This may limit our ability: to grow and make new investments; to attract and retain top investment professionals; to maintain deal flow and relations with top companies in our Target Industries and related entities such as venture capital and private equity sponsors; and to sustain a minimum efficient scale for a public company. Regulations governing our operation as a BDC affect our ability to, and the way in which, we raise additional capital, which may expose us to additional risks. Our business plans contemplate a need for a substantial amount of capital in addition to our current amount of capital. We may obtain additional capital through the issuance of debt securities or preferred stock, and we may borrow money from banks or other financial institutions, which we refer to collectively as " senior securities, " up to the maximum amount permitted by the 1940 Act. If we issue senior securities, we would be exposed to typical risks associated with leverage, including an increased risk of loss. In addition, if we issue preferred stock, it would rank senior to common stock in our capital structure and preferred stockholders would have separate voting rights and may have rights, preferences or privileges more favorable than those of holders of our common stock. ~~43The~~ **44The** 1940 Act permits us to issue senior securities in amounts such that our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 150 % after each issuance of senior securities, subject to certain disclosure requirements. If our asset coverage is not at least 150 %, we are not permitted to pay distributions or issue additional senior securities. As a result, we may have difficulty meeting the Annual Distribution Requirement necessary to maintain RIC tax treatment. Moreover, if the value of our assets declines, we may be unable to satisfy this asset coverage test. If that happens, we may be required to liquidate a portion of our investments and repay a portion of our indebtedness at a time when we may be unable to do so or unable to do so on favorable terms. As a BDC, we generally are not able to issue our common stock at a price below NAV per share without first obtaining the approval of our stockholders and our independent directors. Our stockholder approval expired in January 2016, but we may seek such approval again in the future. If our common stock trades at a price below NAV per share and we do not receive approval from our stockholders and our independent directors to issue common stock at a price below NAV per share, we cannot raise capital through the issuance of equity securities. This may limit our ability: to grow and make new investments; to attract and retain top investment professionals; to maintain deal flow and relations with top companies in our Target Industries and related entities such as venture capital and private equity sponsors; and to sustain a minimum efficient scale for a public company. The stockholder approval requirement does not apply to stock issued upon the exercise of options, warrants or rights that we may issue from time to time. If we raise additional funds by issuing more common stock or senior securities convertible into, or exchangeable for, our common stock, the percentage ownership of our stockholders at that time would decrease, and you may experience dilution. If we do not invest a sufficient portion of our assets in qualifying assets, we could fail to qualify as a BDC or be precluded from investing according to our current business strategy. As a BDC, we are prohibited from acquiring any assets other than qualifying assets (as defined under the 1940 Act) unless, at the time of and after giving effect to such acquisition, at least 70 % of our total assets are qualifying assets. Subject to certain

exceptions for follow-on investments and distressed companies, an investment in an issuer that has outstanding securities listed on a national securities exchange may be treated as a qualifying asset only if such issuer has a market capitalization that is less than \$ 250 million at the time of such investment and meets the other specified requirements. We may decide to make other investments that are not qualifying assets to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act. If we acquire debt or equity securities from an issuer that has outstanding marginable securities at the time we make an investment, these acquired assets may not be treated as qualifying assets. This result is dictated by the definition of “ eligible portfolio company ” under the 1940 Act, which in part looks to whether a company has outstanding marginable securities. See Item 1 above, “ Regulation — Qualifying assets. ” If we do not invest a sufficient portion of our assets in qualifying assets, we could lose our status as a BDC. If we do not maintain our status as a BDC, we would be subject to regulation as a registered closed-end investment company under the 1940 Act. As a registered closed-end investment company, we would be subject to substantially more regulatory restrictions under the 1940 Act, which would significantly decrease our operating flexibility. New or modified laws or regulations governing our operations may adversely affect our business. We and our portfolio companies are subject to regulation at the U. S. local, state and federal level. We are also subject to federal, state and local laws and are subject to judicial and administrative decisions that affect our operations, including maximum interest rates, fees and other charges, disclosures to portfolio companies, the terms of secured transactions, collection and foreclosure proceedings and other trade practices. If these laws, regulations or decisions change, or if we expand our business into additional jurisdictions, we may have to incur significant expenses in order to comply or we might have to restrict our operations. New legislation may be enacted or new interpretations, rulings or regulations could be adopted, including those governing the types of investments we or our portfolio companies are permitted to make, any of which could harm us and our stockholders, potentially with retroactive effect. In particular, the impact of the Dodd- Frank Act, and any amendments thereto that may be enacted, on us and our portfolio companies is subject to continuing uncertainty. The Dodd- Frank Act, including future rules implementing its provisions and the interpretation of those rules, along with other legislative and regulatory proposals directed at the financial services industry or affecting taxation that are proposed or pending in the U. S. Congress, may negatively impact the operations, cash flows or financial condition of us or our portfolio companies, impose additional costs on us or our portfolio companies, intensify the regulatory supervision of us or our portfolio companies or otherwise adversely affect our business or the business of our portfolio companies. Certain members of Congress have indicated they will seek to amend or repeal portions of the Dodd- Frank Act, among other federal laws. We cannot predict the ultimate effect on us or our portfolio companies that changes in the laws and regulations would have as a result of the Dodd- Frank Act, or whether and the extent to which the Dodd- Frank Act may remain in its current form. In addition, uncertainty regarding legislation and regulations affecting the financial services industry or taxation could also adversely impact our business or the business of our portfolio companies. If we do not comply with applicable laws and regulations, we could lose any licenses that we then hold for the conduct of our business and may be subject to civil fines and criminal penalties. ~~44Changes~~ ~~45Changes~~ to or repeal of the laws and regulations governing our operations related to permitted investments may cause us to alter our investment strategy in order to avail ourselves of new or different opportunities. Such changes could result in material differences to our strategies and plans and may shift our investment focus from the areas of expertise of our Advisor to other types of investments in which our Advisor may have little or no expertise or experience. Any such changes, if they occur, could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations and the value of your investment. On May 24, 2018, the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief, and Consumer Protection Act was signed into law, which increased from \$ 50 billion to \$ 250 billion the asset threshold for designation of “ systemically important financial institutions ” or “ SIFIs ” subject to enhanced prudential standards set by the Federal Reserve Board, staggering application of this change based on the size and risk of the covered bank holding company. On January 30, 2020, the Federal Reserve Board released proposed changes to the Volcker Rule that would loosen compliance requirements for all banks. The effect of these change and any further rules or regulations are and could be complex and far-reaching, and the change and any future laws or regulations or changes thereto could negatively impact our operations, cash flows or financial condition, impose additional costs on us, intensify the regulatory supervision of us or otherwise adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Over the last several years, there also has been an increase in regulatory attention to the extension of credit outside of the traditional banking sector, raising the possibility that some portion of the non-bank financial sector will be subject to new regulation. While it cannot be known at this time whether any regulation will be implemented or what form it will take, increased regulation of non-bank credit extension could negatively impact our operations, cash flows or financial condition, impose additional costs on us, intensify the regulatory supervision of us or otherwise adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Our Board may change our operating policies and strategies, including our investment objective, without prior notice or stockholder approval, the effects of which may adversely affect our business. Our Board may modify or waive our current operating policies and strategies, including our investment objectives, without prior notice and without stockholder approval (provided that no such modification or waiver may change the nature of our business so as to cease to be, or withdraw our election as a BDC as provided by the 1940 Act without stockholder approval at a special meeting called upon written notice of not less than ten or more than sixty days before the date of such meeting). We cannot predict the effect any changes to our current operating policies and strategies would have on our business, results of operations or financial condition or on the value of our stock. However, the effects of any changes might adversely affect our business, any or all of which could negatively impact our ability to pay distributions or cause you to lose all or part of your investment in us. Our quarterly and annual operating results may fluctuate due to the nature of our business. We could experience fluctuations in our quarterly and annual operating results due to a number of factors, some of which are beyond our control, including: our ability to make investments in companies that meet our investment criteria, the interest rate payable on our debt investments, the default rate on these investments, the level of our expenses, variations in, and the timing of, the recognition of realized and unrealized gains or losses, the degree to which we encounter competition in our markets and general economic conditions. For example, we have

historically experienced greater investment activity during the second and fourth quarters relative to other periods. As a result of these factors, you should not rely on the results for any prior period as being indicative of our performance in future periods.

45Risks-46Risks Related to our Securities Leverage is generally considered a speculative investment technique, and we intend to continue to borrow money as part of our business plan. The use of leverage magnifies the potential for gain or loss on amounts invested and, therefore, increases the risks associated with investing in us. See “Item 7 — Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operation — Liquidity and capital resources.” Lenders of senior debt securities have fixed dollar claims on our assets that are superior to the claims of our common stockholders. If the value of our assets increases, then leveraging would cause the NAV attributable to our common stock to increase more sharply than it would have had we not leveraged. However, any decrease in our income would cause net income to decline more sharply than it would have had we not leveraged. This decline could adversely affect our ability to make common stock distribution payments. In addition, because our investments may be illiquid, we may be unable to dispose of them or unable to do so at a favorable price in the event we need to do so, if we are unable to refinance any indebtedness upon maturity, and, as a result, we may suffer losses. Our ability to service any debt that we incur depends largely on our financial performance and is subject to prevailing economic conditions and competitive pressures. Moreover, as our Advisor’s management fee is payable to our Advisor based on our gross assets less cash and cash equivalents, including those assets acquired through the use of leverage, our Advisor may have a financial incentive to incur leverage which may not be consistent with our stockholders’ interests. As leverage magnifies gains, if any, on our portfolio, as discussed above, our Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income may exceed the quarterly hurdle rate for the incentive fee on income payable. Thus, if we incur additional leverage, the incentive fees payable to the Advisor may increase without any corresponding increase in our performance. Holders of our common stock bear the burden of any increase in our expenses, as a result of leverage, including any increase in the management fee or incentive fee payable to our Advisor. In addition to the leverage described above, in the past, we have securitized a large portion of our debt investments to generate cash for funding new investments and may seek to securitize additional debt investments in the future to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act and the risk retention rules adopted pursuant to Section 941 of the Dodd- Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, or the Dodd- Frank Act. To securitize additional debt investments in the future, we may create a wholly- owned subsidiary and sell and / or contribute a pool of debt investments to such subsidiary. This could include the sale of interests in the subsidiary on a non- recourse basis to purchasers, who we would expect to be willing to accept a lower interest rate to invest in investment grade loan pools. We would retain all or a portion of the equity in any such securitized pool of loans. An inability to securitize part of our debt investments in the future could limit our ability to grow our business, fully execute our business strategy and increase our earnings. Moreover, certain types of securitization transactions may expose us to greater risk of loss than would other types of financing. Illustration: The following table illustrates the effect of leverage on returns from an investment in our common stock assuming that we employ leverage such that our asset coverage equals (1) our actual asset coverage as of December 31, ~~2022~~ **2023** and (2) 150 % at various annual returns, net of expenses. The calculations in the table below are hypothetical and actual returns may be higher or lower than those appearing in the table below: Assumed Return on Portfolio (Net of Expenses)- 10 %- 5 % 0 % 5 % 10 % Corresponding return to common stockholder assuming actual asset coverage as of December 31, ~~2022~~ **2023** (1) (~~32-34~~ . ~~50-49~~) % (~~20-22~~ . ~~44-11~~) % (~~8-9~~ . ~~38-74~~) % ~~3-2~~ . ~~68-64~~ % 15. ~~74-02~~ % Corresponding return to common stockholder assuming 150 % asset coverage (2) (~~42-43~~ . ~~45-91~~) % (~~27-28~~ . ~~29-72~~) % (~~12-13~~ . ~~14-54~~) % ~~3-1~~ . ~~02-65~~ % ~~18-16~~ . ~~18-83~~ % (1) Assumes \$ ~~767-802~~ million in total assets, \$ ~~439-466~~ million in outstanding debt, \$ ~~318-324~~ million in net assets, and an average cost of borrowed funds of ~~6.07-77~~ % at December 31, ~~2022~~ **2023** . (2) Assumes \$ ~~964-984~~ million in total assets, \$ ~~636-648~~ million in outstanding debt, \$ ~~318-324~~ million in net assets, and an average cost of borrowed funds of ~~6.07-77~~ % at December 31, ~~2022~~ **2023** . ~~46Based-47Based~~ on our outstanding indebtedness of \$ ~~439-466~~ million as of December 31, ~~2022~~ **2023** and the average cost of borrowed funds of ~~6.07-77~~ % as of that date, our investment portfolio would have needed to experience an annual return of at least ~~3-4~~ . ~~77-37~~ % to cover annual interest payments on the outstanding debt. Actual interest payments may be different. Based on an outstanding indebtedness of \$ ~~636-648~~ million on an assumed 150 % asset coverage ratio and an average cost of borrowed funds of ~~6.07-77~~ % , our investment portfolio would need to experience an annual return of at least ~~5-6~~ . ~~46-08~~ % to cover annual interest payments on the outstanding debt. Actual interest payments may be different. If we are unable to comply with the covenants or restrictions in our Credit Facilities or make payments when due thereunder, our business could be materially adversely affected. Our Credit Facilities are secured by a lien on the assets of our wholly owned subsidiaries, Credit II and HFI. The breach of certain of the covenants or restrictions or our failure to make payments when due under the Credit Facilities, unless cured within the applicable grace period, would result in a default under the Credit Facilities that would permit the lender thereunder to declare all amounts outstanding to be due and payable. In such an event, we may not have sufficient assets to repay such indebtedness and the lender may exercise rights available to them, including to the extent permitted under applicable law, the seizure of such assets without adjudication. The Key Facility also requires Credit II, HFI and our Advisor to comply with various financial covenants, including maintenance by our Advisor of a minimum tangible net worth and limitations on the value of, and modifications to, the loan collateral that secures the Credit Facilities. Complying with these restrictions may prevent us from taking actions that we believe would help us to grow our business or are otherwise consistent with our investment objective. These restrictions could also limit our ability to plan for or react to market conditions, meet extraordinary capital needs or otherwise restrict corporate activities, and could result in our failing to qualify as a RIC resulting in our becoming subject to corporate- level income tax. See “Item 7 — Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations — Liquidity and capital resources” for additional information regarding our credit arrangements. An event of default or acceleration under the Credit Facilities could also cause a cross- default or cross- acceleration of other debt instruments or contractual obligations, which would adversely impact our liquidity. We may not be granted waivers or amendments to the Credit Facilities, if for any reason we are unable to comply with the terms of the Credit Facilities and we may not be able to refinance the Credit Facilities on terms

acceptable to us, or at all. If we are unable to obtain additional debt financing, our business could be materially adversely affected. We may want to obtain additional debt financing, or need to do so upon maturity of the Key Facility, NYL Facility, 2026 Notes, 2027 Notes, or the **2022** Asset- Backed Notes, in order to obtain funds which may be made available for investments. We may borrow under the Key Facility until June 22, 2024. After such date, we must repay the outstanding advances under the Key Facility in accordance with its terms and conditions. All outstanding advances under the Key Facility are due and payable on June 22, 2026, unless such date is extended in accordance with the terms of the Key Facility. We may borrow under the NYL Facility until June 5, **2023-2024**. After such date, we must repay the outstanding advances under the NYL Facility in accordance with its terms and conditions. All outstanding advances under the NYL Facility are due and payable on June 15, **2028-2029**, unless such date is extended in accordance with the terms of the NYL Facility. All outstanding amounts on our 2026 Notes are due and payable on March 30, 2026 unless redeemed prior to that date. All outstanding amounts on our 2027 Notes are due and payable on June **15, 2027**. ~~The 2019 Asset- Backed Notes have a stated maturity of September 15, 2027.~~ The 2022 Asset- Backed Notes have a stated maturity of November 15, 2030. If we are unable to increase, renew or replace the Credit Facilities or enter into other new debt financings on commercially reasonable terms, our liquidity may be reduced significantly. In addition, if we are unable to repay amounts outstanding under any such debt financings and are declared in default or are unable to renew or refinance these debt financings, we may not be able to make new investments or operate our business in the normal course. These situations may arise due to circumstances that we may be unable to control, such as lack of access to the credit markets, a severe decline in the value of the U. S. dollar, an economic downturn or an operational problem that affects third parties or us, and could materially damage our business. ~~47We~~ **48We** are subject to certain risks as a result of our interests in connection with the ~~2019-1 Securitization and~~ 2022- 1 Securitization and our equity interest in the ~~2019-1 Trust and~~ 2022- 1 Trust . ~~On August 13, 2019, in connection with the 2019-1 Securitization and the offering of the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes by the 2019-1 Trust, we sold and /or contributed to Horizon Funding 2019-1, LLC or the 2019 Trust Depositor, certain loans, or the 2019 Trust Loans, which the 2019 Trust Depositor in turn sold and /or contributed to the 2019-1 Trust in exchange for 100 % of the equity interest in the 2019-1 Trust, cash proceeds and other consideration. Following these transfers, the 2019-1 Trust, and not the 2019 Trust Depositor or us, holds all of the ownership interest in the 2019 Trust Loans. As a result of the 2019-1 Securitization, we hold, indirectly through the 2019 Trust Depositor, 100 % of the equity interest of the 2019-1 Trust. As a result, we consolidate the financial statements of the 2019 Trust Depositor and the 2019-1 Trust, as well as our other subsidiaries, in our consolidated financial statements. Because each of the 2019 Trust Depositor and the 2019-1 Trust is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner for U. S. federal income tax purposes, the sale or contribution by us to the 2019 Trust Depositor, and by the 2019 Trust Depositor to the 2019-1 Trust, did not constitute a taxable event for U. S. federal income tax purposes. If the U. S. Internal Revenue Service were to take a contrary position, there could be a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. Further, a failure of the 2019-1 Trust to be treated as a disregarded entity for U. S. federal income tax purposes would constitute an event of default pursuant to the indenture under the 2019-1 Securitization, upon which the trustee under the 2019-1 Securitization, or the Trustee, may, and will at the direction of a supermajority of the holders of the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes (collectively, the “ Noteholders ”), declare the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes to be immediately due and payable and exercise remedies under the indenture, including (i) institute proceedings for the collection of all amounts then payable on the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes or under the indenture, enforce any judgment obtained, and collect from the 2019-1 Trust and any other obligor upon the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes monies adjudged due; (ii) institute proceedings from time to time for the complete or partial foreclosure of the indenture with respect to the property of the 2019-1 Trust; (iii) exercise any remedies as a secured party under the relevant provisions of the applicable jurisdiction’s UCC and take other appropriate action under applicable law to protect and enforce the rights and remedies of the Trustee and the Noteholders; or (iv) sell the property of the 2019-1 Trust or any portion thereof or rights or interest therein at one or more public or private sales called and conducted in any matter permitted by law. Any such exercise of remedies could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows .~~ On November 8, 2022, in connection with the 2022 - 1 Securitization and the offering of the 2022 Asset- Backed Notes by the 2022 - 1 Trust, we sold and / or contributed to Horizon Funding 2022 - 1, LLC or the 2022 Trust Depositor, certain loans, or the 2022 Trust Loans, which the 2022 Trust Depositor in turn sold and / or contributed to the 2022 - 1 Trust in exchange for 100 % of the equity interest in the 2022 - 1 Trust, cash proceeds and other consideration. Following these transfers, the 2022 - 1 Trust, and not the 2022 Trust Depositor or us, holds all of the ownership interest in the 2022 Trust Loans. As a result of the 2022 - 1 Securitization, we hold, indirectly through the 2022 Trust Depositor, 100 % of the equity interest of the 2022 - 1 Trust. As a result, we consolidate the financial statements of the 2022 Trust Depositor and the 2022 - 1 Trust, as well as our other subsidiaries, in our consolidated financial statements. Because each of the 2022 Trust Depositor and the 2022 - 1 Trust is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner for U. S. federal income tax purposes, the sale or contribution by us to the 2022 Trust Depositor, and by the 2022 Trust Depositor to the 2022 - 1 Trust, did not constitute a taxable event for U. S. federal income tax purposes. If the U. S. Internal Revenue Service were to take a contrary position, there could be a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. Further, a failure of the 2022 - 1 Trust to be treated as a disregarded entity for U. S. federal income tax purposes would constitute an event of default pursuant to the indenture under the 2022 - 1 Securitization, upon which the trustee under the 2022 - 1 Securitization, or the Trustee, may, and will at the direction of a supermajority of the holders of the 2022 Asset- Backed Notes (collectively, the “ Noteholders ”), declare the 2022 Asset- Backed Notes to be immediately due and payable and exercise remedies under the indenture, including (i) institute proceedings for the collection of all amounts then payable on the 2022 Asset- Backed Notes or under the indenture, enforce any judgment obtained, and collect from the 2022 - 1 Trust and any other obligor upon the 2022 Asset- Backed Notes monies adjudged due; (ii) institute proceedings from time to time for the complete or partial foreclosure of the indenture with respect to the property of the 2022 - 1 Trust; (iii) exercise any remedies as a secured party under the relevant provisions of the

applicable jurisdiction's UCC and take other appropriate action under applicable law to protect and enforce the rights and remedies of the Trustee and the Noteholders; or (iv) sell the property of the 2022 - 1 Trust or any portion thereof or rights or interest therein at one or more public or private sales called and conducted in any matter permitted by law. Any such exercise of remedies could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. An event of default in connection with the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization or~~ 2022- 1 Securitization could give rise to a cross- default under our other material indebtedness. The documents governing our other material indebtedness contain customary cross- default provisions that could be triggered if an event of default occurs in connection with the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization or the~~ 2022- 1 Securitization. An event of default with respect to our other indebtedness could lead to the acceleration of such indebtedness and the exercise of other remedies as provided in the documents governing such other indebtedness. This could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and may result in our inability to make distributions sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC. We may not receive cash distributions in respect of our indirect ownership interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust and~~ 2022- 1 Trust. Apart from fees payable to us in connection with our role as servicer of the ~~2019 Trust Loans and~~ 2022 Trust Loans and the reimbursement of related amounts under the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization and~~ 2022- 1 Securitization documents, we receive cash in connection with the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization and the~~ 2022- 1 Securitization only to the extent that the ~~2019 Trust Depositor and the~~ 2022 Trust Depositor receive payments in respect of its equity interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust and the~~ 2022- 1 Trust. The holders of the equity interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust and the~~ 2022- 1 Trust, respectively, are the residual claimant on distributions, if any, made by ~~the 2019 - 1 Trust and the~~ 2022- 1 Trust after the Noteholders and other claimants have been paid in full on each payment date or upon maturity of the ~~2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes, subject to the priority of payment provisions under the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization and the~~ 2022- 1 Securitization documents. To the extent that the value of ~~the 2019 - 1 Trust's portfolio of 2019 Trust Loans or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust's portfolio of 2022 Trust Loans is reduced as a result of conditions in the credit markets (relevant in the event of a liquidation event), other macroeconomic factors, distressed or defaulted ~~2019 Trust Loans and~~ 2022 Trust Loans or the failure of individual portfolio companies to otherwise meet their obligations in respect of the ~~2019 Trust Loans or the~~ 2022 Trust Loans, or for any other reason, the ability of the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust to make cash distributions in respect of ~~the 2019 Trust Depositor's equity interest or the~~ 2022 Trust Depositor's equity interest would be negatively affected and, consequently, the value of the equity interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust would also be reduced. In the event that we fail to receive cash indirectly from the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust, we could be unable to make distributions in amounts sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC or at all. ~~48The~~ **49The** interests of the Noteholders may not be aligned with our interests. The ~~2019 Asset- Backed Notes and~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes are debt obligations ranking senior in right of payment to the rights of the holder of the equity interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust (currently the 2019 Trust Depositor, our wholly owned subsidiary) and the~~ 2022- 1 Trust (currently the 2022 Trust Depositor, **out our** wholly owned subsidiary), as residual claimant in respect of distributions, if any, made by the ~~2019 - 1 Trust and the~~ 2022- 1 Trust, ~~respectively~~. As such, there are circumstances in which the interests of the Noteholders may not be aligned with the interests of the holder of the equity interests in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust. For example, under the terms of the documents governing the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization and the~~ 2022- 1 Securitization, the Noteholders have the right to receive payments of principal and interest prior to the holder of the equity interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust. For as long as ~~the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes remain outstanding, the Noteholders have the right to act in certain circumstances with respect to the **2022** Trust Loans in ways that may benefit their interests but not the interests of holder of the equity interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust, including by exercising remedies under the documents governing the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization and the~~ 2022- 1 Securitization. If an event of default occurs, the Noteholders will be entitled to determine the remedies to be exercised, subject to the terms of the documents governing the ~~2019 - 1 Securitization and the~~ 2022- 1 Securitization. For example, upon the occurrence of an event of default with respect to ~~the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes, the Trustee may, and will at the direction of the holders of a supermajority of the ~~2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes, declare the principal, together with any accrued interest, of the ~~2019 Asset- Backed Note or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Note to be immediately due and payable. This would have the effect of accelerating the principal on such ~~2019 Asset- Backed Note or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes, triggering a repayment obligation on the part of the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust. The ~~2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes then outstanding will be paid in full before any further payment or distribution is made to the holder of the equity interest in ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust. There can be no assurance that there will be sufficient funds through collections on the ~~2019 Trust Loans or the~~ 2022 Trust Loans or through the proceeds of the sale of the ~~2019 Trust Loans or the~~ 2022 Trust Loans in the event of a bankruptcy or insolvency to repay in full the obligations under ~~the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes, or to make any distribution payment to holder of the equity interest in the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust. Remedies pursued by the Noteholders could be adverse to our interests as the indirect holder of the equity interest in ~~the 2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust. The Noteholders have no obligation to consider any possible adverse effect on such other interests. Thus, there can be no assurance that any remedies pursued by the Noteholders will be consistent with the best interests of the ~~2019 Trust Depositor or the~~ 2022 Trust Depositor or that we will receive, indirectly through ~~the 2019 Trust Depositor or the~~ 2022 Trust Depositor, any payments or distributions upon an acceleration of ~~the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes. Any failure of the ~~2019 - 1 Trust or the~~ 2022- 1 Trust to make distributions in respect of the equity interest that we indirectly hold through the ~~2019 Trust Depositor or the~~ 2022 Trust Depositor, whether as a result of an event of default and the acceleration of payments on ~~the 2019 Asset- Backed Notes or the~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes or otherwise, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and may result in our inability to make distributions sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC. **Certain** **50****Certain** events related to the performance of ~~2019 Trust Loans or~~ 2022 Trust Loans could lead to the acceleration of principal payments on the ~~2019 Asset- Backed Notes or~~ 2022 Asset- Backed Notes. The ~~following constitute rapid amortization events, or~~

Rapid Amortization Events, under the documents governing the 2019-1 Securitization: (i) the aggregate outstanding principal balance of all delinquent 2019 Trust Loans exceeds twenty percent (20%) of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the 2019 Trust Loans; (ii) the aggregate outstanding principal balance of defaulted 2019 Trust Loans plus the aggregate outstanding principal balance of all liquidated 2019 Trust Loans exceeds fifteen percent (15%) of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the 2019 Trust Loans; (iii) the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the 2019 Asset-Backed Notes exceeds the borrowing base (which is a percentage of the outstanding principal balance of the 2019 Trust Loans less delinquent 2019 Trust Loans and 2019 Trust Loans to issuers that exceed given thresholds) for a period of sixty consecutive days; (iv) the 2019-1 Trust's pool of 2019 Trust Loans contains 2019 Trust Loans to nine or fewer obligors during the amortization period; (v) the occurrence of an event of default under the documents governing the 2019-1 Securitization; (vi) the downgrade of the rating of the 2019 Asset-Backed Notes by the rating agency to below "BB"; and the downgrade of the rating of the 2019 Asset-Backed Notes by the rating agency to below investment-grade and failure to cure such downgrade within 180 days of such downgrade. After a Rapid Amortization Event has occurred, subject to the priority of payment provisions under the documents governing the 2019-1 Securitization, principal collections on the 2019 Trust Loans will be used to make accelerated payments of principal on the 2019 Asset-Backed Notes until the payment of principal balance of the 2019 Asset-Backed Notes is reduced to zero. Such an event could delay, reduce or eliminate the ability of the 2019-1 Trust to make payments or distributions in respect of the equity interest that we indirectly hold, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and may result in our inability to make distributions sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC. 49

The following constitute rapid amortization events, or Rapid Amortization Events, under the documents governing the 2022-1 Securitization: (i) the aggregate outstanding principal balance of all delinquent 2022 Trust Loans exceeds twenty percent (20%) of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the 2022 Trust Loans; (ii) the aggregate outstanding principal balance of defaulted 2022 Trust Loans plus the aggregate outstanding principal balance of all liquidated 2022 Trust Loans exceeds fifteen percent (15%) of the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the 2022 Trust Loans; (iii) the aggregate outstanding principal balance of the 2022 Asset-Backed Notes exceeds the borrowing base (which is a percentage of the outstanding principal balance of the 2022 Trust Loans less delinquent 2022 Trust Loans and 2022 Trust Loans to issuers that exceed given thresholds) for a period of sixty consecutive days; (iv) the 2022-1 Trust's pool of 2022 Trust Loans contains 2022 Trust Loans to nine or fewer obligors during the amortization period; or (v) the occurrence of an event of default under the documents governing the 2022-1 Securitization. After a Rapid Amortization Event has occurred, subject to the priority of payment provisions under the documents governing the 2022-1 Securitization, principal collections on the 2022 Trust Loans will be used to make accelerated payments of principal on the 2022 Asset-Backed Notes until the payment of principal balance of the 2022 Asset-Backed Notes is reduced to zero. Such an event could delay, reduce or eliminate the ability of the 2022-1 Trust to make payments or distributions in respect of the equity interest that we indirectly hold, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and may result in our inability to make distributions sufficient to maintain our status as a RIC. We have certain repurchase obligations with respect to the 2019 Trust Loans and the 2022 Trust Loans transferred in connection with the 2019-1 Securitization and the 2022-1 Securitization. As part of the 2019-1 Securitization, we entered into a sale and contribution agreement and a sale and servicing agreement under which we would be required to repurchase any 2019 Trust Loan (or participation interest therein) which was sold to the 2019-1 Trust in breach of certain customary representations and warranties made by us or by the 2019 Trust Depositor with respect to such 2019 Trust Loan or the legal structure of the 2019-1 Securitization. To the extent that there is such a breach of such representations and warranties and we fail to satisfy any such repurchase obligation, the Trustee may, on behalf of the 2019-1 Trust, bring an action against us to enforce these repurchase obligations. As part of the 2022-1 Securitization, we entered into a sale and contribution agreement and a sale and servicing agreement under which we would be required to repurchase any 2022 Trust Loan (or participation interest therein) which was sold to the 2022-1 Trust in breach of certain customary representations and warranties made by us or by the 2022 Trust Depositor with respect to such 2022 Trust Loan or the legal structure of the 2022-1 Securitization. To the extent that there is such a breach of such representations and warranties and we fail to satisfy any such repurchase obligation, the Trustee may, on behalf of the 2022-1 Trust, bring an action against us to enforce these repurchase obligations. There is a risk that investors in our equity securities may not receive distributions, that our distributions may not grow over time or that a portion of distributions paid to you may be a return of capital. We intend to make distributions on a monthly basis to our stockholders out of assets legally available for distribution. We cannot assure you that we will achieve investment results that will allow us to make a specified level of cash distributions or year-to-year increases in cash distributions. Our ability to pay distributions might be adversely affected by the impact of one or more risk factors described in this report. In addition, due to the asset coverage test applicable to us as a BDC, we may be limited in our ability to make distributions. All distributions will be paid at the discretion of our Board and will depend on our earnings, our financial condition, maintenance of our ability to be subject to tax as a RIC, compliance with BDC regulation and such other factors as our Board may deem relevant from time to time. We cannot assure you that we will pay distributions to our stockholders in the future. Further, if we invest a greater amount of assets in equity securities that do not pay current dividends, the amount available for distribution could be reduced. On an annual basis, we must determine the extent to which any distributions we made were paid out of current or accumulated earnings, recognized capital gains or capital. Distributions that represent a return of capital (which is the return of your original investment in us, after subtracting sales load, fees and expenses directly or indirectly paid by you) rather than a distribution from earnings or profits, reduce your basis in our stock for U. S. federal income tax purposes, which may result in higher tax liability when the shares are sold, even if they have not increased in value or have lost value. Our common stock price may be volatile and may decrease substantially. The trading price of our common stock may fluctuate substantially and the liquidity of our common stock may be limited, in each case depending on many factors, some of which are beyond our control and may not be directly related to our operating performance. These factors include the

following: ● actual or anticipated changes in our earnings or fluctuations in our operating results; ● changes in the value of our portfolio of investments; ● price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market or in the market for BDCs from time to time; ● investor demand for our shares of common stock; ● significant volatility in the market price and trading volume of securities of registered closed- end management investment companies, BDCs or other financial services companies; ● our inability to raise capital, borrow money or deploy or invest our capital; ● fluctuations in interest rates; ● any shortfall in revenue or net income or any increase in losses from levels expected by investors or securities analysts; ● operating performance of companies comparable to us; ● changes in regulatory policies or tax guidelines with respect to RICs or BDCs; ● losing RIC status; ● general economic conditions, trends and other external factors; ● departures of key personnel; or ● loss of a major source of funding. We and our Advisor could be the target of litigation. We or our Advisor could become the target of securities class action litigation or other similar claims if our stock price fluctuates significantly or for other reasons. The outcome of any such proceedings could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and / or operating results and could continue without resolution for long periods of time. Any litigation or other similar claims could consume substantial amounts of our management' s time and attention, and that time and attention and the devotion of associated resources could, at times, be disproportionate to the amounts at stake. Litigation and other claims are subject to inherent uncertainties, and a material adverse impact on our financial statements could occur for the period in which the effect of an unfavorable final outcome in litigation or other similar claims becomes probable and reasonably estimable. In addition, we could incur expenses associated with defending ourselves against litigation and other similar claims, and these expenses could be material to our earnings in future periods. Shares of closed- end investment companies, including BDCs, frequently trade at a discount to their NAV, which is separate and distinct from the risk that our NAV per share may decline. We cannot predict the price at which our common stock will trade. Shares of closed- end investment companies, including BDCs, frequently trade at a discount to their NAV and our stock may also be discounted in the market. This characteristic of closed- end investment companies is separate and distinct from the risk that our NAV per share may decline. We cannot predict whether shares of our common stock will trade above, at or below our NAV. In addition, if our common stock trades below its NAV, we will generally not be able to issue additional shares of our common stock at its market price without first obtaining the approval of our stockholders and our independent directors. Investing in shares of our common stock may involve an above average degree of risk. The investments we make in accordance with our investment objective may result in a higher amount of risk, volatility or loss of principal than alternative investment options. Our investments in portfolio companies may be highly speculative and aggressive, and therefore, an investment in our common stock may not be suitable for investors with lower risk tolerance. ● Anti- takeover provisions in our charter documents and other agreements and certain provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law, or DGCL, could deter takeover attempts and have an adverse impact on the price of our common stock. The DGCL, our certificate of incorporation and our bylaws contain provisions that may have the effect of discouraging a third party from making an acquisition proposal for us. Among other things, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws: ● provide for a classified board of directors, which may delay the ability of our stockholders to change the membership of a majority of our Board; ● authorize the issuance of “ blank check ” preferred stock that could be issued by our Board to thwart a takeover attempt; ● do not provide for cumulative voting; ● provide that vacancies on the Board, including newly created directorships, may be filled only by a majority vote of directors then in office; ● limit the calling of special meetings of stockholders; ● provide that our directors may be removed only for cause; ● require supermajority voting to effect certain amendments to our certificate of incorporation and our bylaws; and ● require stockholders to provide advance notice of new business proposals and director nominations under specific procedures. These anti- takeover provisions may inhibit a change in control in circumstances that could give the holders of our common stock the opportunity to realize a premium over the market price of our common stock. It is a default under our Credit Facilities if (i) a person or group of persons (within the meaning of the Exchange Act) acquires beneficial ownership of 20 % or more of our issued and outstanding common stock or (ii) during any twelve- month period, individuals who at the beginning of such period constituted our Board cease for any reason, other than death or disability, to constitute a majority of the directors in office. If either event were to occur, Key and / or the NYL Noteholders could accelerate our repayment obligations under, and / or terminate, the related Credit Facility. If we elect to issue preferred stock, holders of any such preferred stock will have the right to elect members of our Board and have class voting rights on certain matters. The 1940 Act requires that holders of shares of preferred stock must be entitled as a class to elect two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors if distributions on such preferred stock are in arrears by two years or more, until such arrearage is eliminated. In addition, certain matters under the 1940 Act require the separate vote of the holders of any issued and outstanding preferred stock, including changes in fundamental investment restrictions and conversion to open- end status and, accordingly, preferred stockholders could veto any such changes. Restrictions imposed on the declarations and payment of distributions to the holders of our common stock and preferred stock, both by the 1940 Act and by requirements imposed by rating agencies, might impair our ability to maintain our ability to be subject to tax as a RIC. Your interest in us may be diluted if you do not fully exercise your subscription rights in any rights offering. In addition, if the subscription price is less than our NAV per share, then you will experience an immediate dilution of the aggregate NAV of your shares. In the event we issue subscription rights, stockholders who do not fully exercise their rights should expect that they will, at the completion of a rights offering, own a smaller proportional interest in us than would otherwise be the case if they fully exercised their rights. Such dilution is not currently determinable because it is not known what proportion of the shares will be purchased as a result of such rights offering. Any such dilution will disproportionately affect nonexercising stockholders. If the subscription price per share is substantially less than the current NAV per share, this dilution could be substantial. In addition, if the subscription price is less than our NAV per share, our stockholders would experience an immediate dilution of the aggregate NAV of their shares as a result of such rights offering. The amount of any decrease in NAV is not predictable because it is not known at this time what the subscription price and NAV per share will be on the expiration date of the rights offering or what proportion of the shares

will be purchased as a result of such rights offering. Such dilution could be substantial. ~~52~~Investors ~~53~~Investors in offerings of our common stock may incur immediate dilution upon the closing of an offering. If the public offering price for any offering of shares of our common stock is higher than the book value per share of our outstanding common stock, investors purchasing shares of common stock in any offering will pay a price per share that exceeds the tangible book value per share after such offering. If we sell common stock at a discount to our NAV per share, stockholders who do not participate in such sale will experience immediate dilution in an amount that may be material. The issuance or sale by us of shares of our common stock at a discount to NAV poses a risk of dilution to our current stockholders. In particular, stockholders who do not purchase additional shares at or below the discounted price in proportion to their current ownership will experience an immediate decrease in NAV per share (as well as in the aggregate NAV of their shares if they do not participate at all). These stockholders will also experience a disproportionately greater decrease in their participation in our earnings and assets and their voting power than the increase we experience in our assets, potential earning power and voting interests from such issuance or sale. In addition, such sales may adversely affect the price at which our common stock trades. Stockholders experience dilution in their ownership percentage if they do not participate in our dividend reinvestment plan. All distributions payable to stockholders that are participants in our dividend reinvestment plan, or DRIP, are automatically reinvested in shares of our common stock. As a result, stockholders that do not participate in the DRIP will experience dilution in their ownership interest over time. Stockholders may receive shares of our common stock as dividends, which could result in adverse tax consequences to them. In order to satisfy the Annual Distribution Requirement, we have the ability to declare a large portion of a dividend in shares of our common stock instead of in cash. As long as a portion of such dividend is paid in cash (which portion may be as low as 20 % of such dividend) and certain requirements are met, the entire distribution will be treated as a dividend for U. S. federal income tax purposes. As a result, a stockholder generally would be subject to tax on 100 % of the fair market value of the dividend on the date the dividend is received by the stockholder in the same manner as a cash dividend, even though most of the dividend was paid in shares of our common stock. We currently do not intend to pay dividends in shares of our common stock. The trading market or market value of our publicly issued Debt Securities that we may issue may fluctuate. Upon issuance, any publicly issued debt securities that we may issue will not have an established trading market. We cannot assure you that a trading market for our publicly issued Debt Securities will ever develop or, if developed, will be maintained. In addition to our creditworthiness, many factors may materially adversely affect the trading market for, and market value of, our publicly issued Debt Securities. These factors include: • the time remaining to the maturity of these Debt Securities; • the outstanding principal amount of debt securities with terms identical to our Debt Securities; • the supply of debt securities trading in the secondary market, if any; • the redemption or repayment features, if any, of our Debt Securities; ~~53~~ ~~54~~ • the level, direction and volatility of market interest rates generally; and • market rate of interest higher or lower than the rate borne by our Debt Securities. You should also be aware that there may be a limited number of buyers when you decide to sell your debt securities. This too may materially adversely affect the market value of our Debt Securities or the trading market for our Debt Securities. Terms relating to redemption may materially adversely affect your return on the debt securities that we may issue. If we issue debt securities that are redeemable at our option, we may choose to redeem the debt securities at times when prevailing interest rates are lower than the interest rate paid on our Debt Securities. In addition, if such debt securities are subject to mandatory redemption, we may be required to redeem our Debt Securities at times when prevailing interest rates are lower than the interest rate paid on our Debt Securities. In this circumstance, you may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as your debt securities being redeemed. Credit ratings provided by third party credit rating agencies may not reflect all risks of an investment in Debt Securities that we may issue. Credit ratings provided by third party credit rating agencies are an assessment by third parties of our ability to pay our obligations. Consequently, real or anticipated changes in our credit ratings will generally affect the market value of Debt Securities that we may issue. Credit ratings provided by third party credit rating agencies, however, may not reflect the potential impact of risks related to market conditions generally or other factors discussed above on the market value of or trading market for any publicly issued debt securities that we may issue. Because we approved increasing the amount we are permitted to borrow under the 1940 Act, our credit rating may decline and we may incur additional costs in borrowing. Sales in the public market of substantial amounts of our common stock may have an adverse effect on the market price of our common stock, and the registration of a substantial amount of insider shares, whether or not actually sold, may have a negative impact on the market price of our common stock. Sales of substantial amounts of our common stock, or the availability of such common stock for sale, whether or not actually sold, could adversely affect the prevailing market price of our common stock. If this occurs and continues, it could impair our ability to raise additional capital through the sale of equity securities should we desire to do so. Our Debt Securities are unsecured and therefore are effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we have currently incurred or may incur in the future. Our Debt Securities are not secured by any of our assets or any of the assets of our subsidiaries. As a result, our Debt Securities are effectively subordinated to any secured indebtedness we or our subsidiaries have currently incurred and may incur in the future (or any indebtedness that is initially unsecured to which we subsequently grant security) to the extent of the value of the assets securing such indebtedness. In any liquidation, dissolution, bankruptcy or other similar proceeding, the holders of any of our existing or future secured indebtedness and the secured indebtedness of our subsidiaries may assert rights against the assets pledged to secure that indebtedness in order to receive full payment of their indebtedness before the assets may be used to pay other creditors, including the holders of our Debt Securities. Our Debt Securities are structurally subordinated to the indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries. Our Debt Securities are obligations exclusively of Horizon Technology Finance Corporation, and not of any of our subsidiaries. None of our subsidiaries is a guarantor of our Debt Securities and our Debt Securities are not required to be guaranteed by any subsidiaries we may acquire or create in the future. The assets of such subsidiaries are not directly available to satisfy the claims of our creditors, including holders of our Debt Securities. Except to the extent we are a creditor with recognized claims against our subsidiaries, all claims of creditors (including trade creditors) and holders of

preferred stock, if any, of our subsidiaries have priority over our equity interests in such subsidiaries (and therefore the claims of our creditors, including holders of our Debt Securities) with respect to the assets of such subsidiaries. Even if we are recognized as a creditor of one or more of our subsidiaries, our claims are effectively subordinated to any security interests in the assets of any such subsidiary and to any indebtedness or other liabilities of any such subsidiary senior to our claims. Consequently, our Debt Securities are structurally subordinated to all indebtedness and other liabilities (including trade payables) of any of our subsidiaries and any subsidiaries that we may in the future acquire or establish as financing vehicles or otherwise. In addition, our subsidiaries may incur substantial additional indebtedness in the future, all of which would be structurally senior to our Debt Securities. **54The 55The** indenture governing our Debt Securities contains limited protection for holders of our Debt Securities. The indenture governing our Debt Securities offers limited protection to holders of our Debt Securities. The terms of the indenture do not restrict our or any of our subsidiaries' ability to engage in, or otherwise be a party to, a variety of corporate transactions, circumstances or events that could have a material adverse impact on investments in our Debt Securities. In particular, the terms of the indenture do not place any restrictions on our or our subsidiaries' ability to: • issue securities or otherwise incur additional indebtedness or other obligations, including (1) any indebtedness or other obligations that would be equal in right of payment to our Debt Securities, (2) any indebtedness or other obligations that would be secured and therefore rank effectively senior in right of payment to our Debt Securities to the extent of the values of the assets securing such debt, (3) indebtedness of ours that is guaranteed by one or more of our subsidiaries and which therefore is structurally senior to our Debt Securities and (4) securities, indebtedness or obligations issued or incurred by our subsidiaries that would be senior to our equity interests in our subsidiaries and therefore rank structurally senior to our Debt Securities with respect to the assets of our subsidiaries, in each case other than an incurrence of indebtedness or other obligation that would cause a violation of Section 18 (a) (1) (A) of the 1940 Act as modified by Section 61 (a) (1) of the 1940 Act or any successor provisions, whether or not we continue to be subject to such provisions of the 1940 Act, (these provisions generally prohibit us from making additional borrowings, including through the issuance of additional debt or the sale of additional debt securities, unless our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 150 % after such borrowings); • pay dividends on, or purchase or redeem or make any payments in respect of capital stock or other securities ranking junior in right of payment to our Debt Securities, including subordinated indebtedness, in each case other than dividends, purchases, redemptions or payments that would cause a violation of Section 18 (a) (1) (B) of the 1940 Act as modified by Section 61 (a) (1) of the 1940 Act or any successor provisions giving effect to any exemptive relief granted to us by the SEC (these provisions generally prohibit us from declaring any cash dividend or distribution upon any class of our capital stock, or purchasing any such capital stock unless our asset coverage, as defined in the 1940 Act, equals at least 150 % at the time of the declaration of the dividend or distribution or the purchase and after deducting the amount of such dividend, distribution or purchase); • sell assets (other than certain limited restrictions on our ability to consolidate, merge or sell all or substantially all of our assets); • enter into transactions with affiliates; • create liens (including liens on the shares of our subsidiaries) or enter into sale and leaseback transactions; • make investments; or • create restrictions on the payment of dividends or other amounts to us from our subsidiaries. In addition, the indenture does not require us to offer to purchase our Debt Securities in connection with a change of control or any other event. **55Furthermore** **56Furthermore**, the terms of the indenture do not protect holders of our Debt Securities in the event that we experience changes (including significant adverse changes) in our financial condition, results of operations or credit ratings, as they do not require that we or our subsidiaries adhere to any financial tests or ratios or specified levels of net worth, revenues, income, cash flow, or liquidity. Our ability to recapitalize, incur additional debt and take a number of other actions that are not limited by the terms of our Debt Securities may have important consequences for holders of our Debt Securities, including making it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations with respect to our Debt Securities or negatively affecting the trading value of our Debt Securities. Certain of our current debt instruments include more protections for their holders than the indenture. In addition, other debt we issue or incur in the future could contain more protections for its holders than the indenture, including additional covenants and events of default. The issuance or incurrence of any such debt with incremental protections could affect the market for and trading levels and prices of our Debt Securities. An active trading market for our Debt Securities may not exist, which could limit holders' ability to sell our Debt Securities or affect the market price of our Debt Securities. We cannot provide any assurances that an active trading market for our Debt Securities will exist in the future or that you will be able to sell our Debt Securities. Even if an active trading market does exist, our Debt Securities may trade at a discount from their initial offering price depending on prevailing interest rates, the market for similar securities, our credit ratings, if any, general economic conditions, our financial condition, performance and prospects and other factors. To the extent an active trading market does not exist, the liquidity and trading price for our Debt Securities may be harmed. Accordingly, you may be required to bear the financial risk of an investment in our Debt Securities for an indefinite period of time. The optional redemption provision may materially adversely affect the return on our Debt Securities. Our Debt Securities may provide that such securities are redeemable in whole or in part prior to their maturity date at our sole option. We may choose to redeem our Debt Securities at times when prevailing interest rates are lower than the interest rate paid on our Debt Securities. In this circumstance, the holders of our Debt Securities may not be able to reinvest the redemption proceeds in a comparable security at an effective interest rate as high as our Debt Securities being redeemed. If we default on our obligations to pay our other indebtedness, we may not be able to make payments on our Debt Securities. Any default under the agreements governing our indebtedness, including a default under the Credit Facilities, the **2019-1 Securitization or the 2022-1 Securitization**, or other indebtedness to which we may be a party that is not waived by the required lenders or holders thereunder, and the remedies sought by the holders of such indebtedness could make us unable to pay principal, premium, if any, and interest on our Debt Securities and substantially decrease the market value of our Debt Securities. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow and are otherwise unable to obtain funds necessary to meet required payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness, or if we otherwise fail to comply with the various covenants, including financial and operating covenants, in the

instruments governing our indebtedness, we could be in default under the terms of the agreements governing such indebtedness. In the event of such default, the holders of such indebtedness could elect to declare all the funds borrowed thereunder to be due and payable, together with accrued and unpaid interest, the lenders under the Credit Facilities, the ~~2019-1 Securitization or the 2022-1 Securitization~~ or other debt we may incur in the future could elect to terminate their commitments, cease making further loans and institute foreclosure proceedings against our assets, and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation. If our operating performance declines, we may in the future need to seek to obtain waivers from the required lenders under ~~the Credit~~ **Credit** Facilities, ~~the 2019-1 Securitization or the 2022-1 Securitization~~ or other debt that we may incur in the future to avoid being in default. If we breach our covenants under the Credit Facilities, ~~the 2019-1 Securitization or the 2022-1 Securitization~~ or other debt and seek a waiver, we may not be able to obtain a waiver from the required lenders or holders. If this occurs, we would be in default and our lenders or debt holders could exercise their rights as described above, and we could be forced into bankruptcy or liquidation. If we are unable to repay debt, lenders having secured obligations, including the lenders under the Credit Facilities, ~~the 2019-1 Securitization~~ or the 2022-1 Securitization, could proceed against the collateral securing the debt. Because the Credit Facilities, ~~the 2019-1 Securitization~~ or the 2022-1 Securitization have, and any future credit facilities will likely have, customary cross-default provisions, if the indebtedness thereunder or under any future credit facility is accelerated, we may be unable to repay or finance the amounts due. ~~56FATCA~~ **57FATCA** withholding may apply to payments to certain foreign entities. Payments made under our Debt Securities to a foreign financial institution, or “FFI,” or non-financial foreign entity, or “NFFE” (including such an institution or entity acting as an intermediary), may be subject to a U. S. withholding tax of 30 % under U. S. Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act provisions of the Code (commonly referred to as “FATCA”). This withholding tax may apply to payments of interest on our Debt Securities, unless the FFI or NFFE complies with certain information reporting, withholding, identification, certification and related requirements imposed by FATCA. Depending upon the status of a holder and the status of an intermediary through which any Debt Securities are held, the holder could be subject to this 30 % withholding tax in respect of any interest paid on our Debt Securities. Holders of our Debt Securities should consult their own tax advisors regarding FATCA and how it may affect their investment in our Debt Securities. General economic conditions could adversely affect the performance of our investments. We and our portfolio companies are susceptible to the effects of economic slowdowns or recessions. The global growth cycle is in a mature phase and signs of slowdown are evident in certain regions around the world, although most economists continue to expect moderate economic growth in the near term, with limited signals of an imminent recession in the U. S. as consumer and government spending remain healthy. Although the broader outlook remains constructive, geopolitical instability continues to pose risk. In particular, the current U. S. political environment and the resulting uncertainties regarding actual and potential shifts in U. S. foreign investment, trade, taxation, economic, environmental and other policies under the current Administration, as well as the impact of geopolitical tension, such as a deterioration in the bilateral relationship between the U. S. and China or the conflict between Russia and Ukraine, could lead to disruption, instability and volatility in the global markets. Unfavorable economic conditions would be expected to increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us. These events may limit our investment originations, and limit our ability to grow and could have a material negative impact on our operating results, financial condition, results of operations and cash flows and the fair values of our debt and equity investments. In addition, the outbreak of COVID-19 in many countries, along with more recent COVID-19 variants, has disrupted global travel and supply chains, and has adversely impacted global commercial activity and a number of industries, such as transportation, hospitality and entertainment. The rapid development and fluidity of this situation precludes any prediction as to the ultimate adverse impact of COVID-19, or any future pandemics that may arise, which may have a continued adverse impact on economic and market conditions. Certain of our portfolio companies may be affected by global conflict. In particular, on February 24, 2022, Russian troops began a full-scale invasion of Ukraine and, as of the date hereof, the countries remain in active armed conflict. Around the same time, the U. S., the U. K., the E. U., and several other nations announced a broad array of new or expanded sanctions, export controls, and other measures against Russia, Russian-backed separatist regions in Ukraine, and certain banks, companies, government officials, and other individuals in Russia and Belarus, as well as a number of Russian Oligarchs. The U. S. or other countries could also institute broader sanctions on Russia and others supporting Russia’s economy or military efforts. The ongoing conflict and the rapidly evolving measures in response could be expected to have a negative impact on the economy and business activity globally, and therefore could adversely affect the performance of the Company’s portfolio companies. The severity and duration of the conflict and its impact on global economic and market conditions are impossible to predict, and as a result, could present material uncertainty and risk with respect to the Company and its portfolio companies and operations, and the ability of the Company to achieve its investment objectives. Similar risks will exist to the extent that any portfolio companies, service providers, vendors or certain other parties have material operations or assets in Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, or the immediate surrounding areas. Sanctions could also result in Russia taking counter measures or retaliatory actions which could adversely impact our business or the business of our portfolio companies, including, but not limited to, cyberattacks targeting private companies, individuals or other infrastructure upon which our business and the business of our portfolio companies rely. Any deterioration of general economic conditions may lead to significant declines in corporate earnings or loan performance, and the ability of corporate borrowers to service their debt, any of which could trigger a period of global economic slowdown, and have an adverse impact on the performance and financial results of the Company, and the value and the liquidity of the shares. In an economic downturn, we may have non-performing assets or non-performing assets may increase, and the value of our portfolio is likely to decrease during these periods. Adverse economic conditions may also decrease the value of any collateral securing our loan investments. A severe recession may further decrease the value of such collateral and result in losses of value in our portfolio and a decrease in our revenues, net income, assets and net worth. Unfavorable economic conditions also could increase our funding costs, limit our access to the capital markets or result in a decision by lenders not to extend credit to us on favorable terms or at all. These events

could prevent us from increasing investments and harm our operating results. ~~57~~We ~~58~~We compete for investments with a number of investment funds and other BDCs, as well as traditional financial services companies such as commercial banks and other financing sources. Some of our competitors are larger and have greater financial, technical, marketing and other resources than we have. For example, some competitors may have a lower cost of funds and access to funding sources that are not available to us. This may enable these competitors to make commercial loans with interest rates that are comparable to, or lower than, the rates we typically offer. We may lose prospective portfolio companies if we do not match our competitors' pricing, terms and structure. If we do match our competitors' pricing, terms or structure, we may experience decreased net interest income and increased risk of credit losses. In addition, some of our competitors may have higher risk tolerances or different risk assessments, which could allow them to consider a wider variety of investments, establish more relationships than us and build their market shares. Furthermore, many of our competitors are not subject to the regulatory restrictions that the 1940 Act imposes on us as a BDC or that the Code imposes on us as a RIC. If we are not able to compete effectively, we may not be able to identify and take advantage of attractive investment opportunities that we identify and may not be able to fully invest our available capital. If this occurs, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected. Price declines in the U. S. corporate debt market may adversely affect the fair value of our portfolio, reducing our NAV through increased net unrealized depreciation. Conditions in the U. S. corporate debt market may deteriorate, as seen during the recent financial crisis, which may cause pricing levels to similarly decline or be volatile. During the financial crisis, many institutions were forced to raise cash by selling their interests in performing assets in order to satisfy margin requirements or the equivalent of margin requirements imposed by their lenders and / or, in the case of hedge funds and other investment vehicles, to satisfy widespread redemption requests. This resulted in a forced deleveraging cycle of price declines, compulsory sales, and further price declines, with falling underlying credit values, and other constraints resulting from the credit crisis generating further selling pressure. If similar events occurred in the medium- and large- sized U. S. corporate debt market, our NAV could decline through an increase in unrealized depreciation and incurrence of realized losses in connection with the sale of our investments, which could have a material adverse impact on our business, financial condition and results of operations. The U. S. capital markets have experienced extreme disruption since the global outbreak of COVID- 19. Such disruptions have been evidenced by volatility in global stock markets as a result of, among other things, uncertainty regarding the COVID- 19 pandemic and the fluctuating price of commodities such as oil. Despite actions of the U. S. federal government and foreign governments, these events have contributed to worsening general economic conditions that are materially and adversely impacting broader financial and credit markets and reducing the availability of debt and equity capital for the market as a whole. These conditions could continue for a prolonged period of time or worsen in the future. Significant changes or volatility in the capital markets may negatively affect the valuations of our investments. While most of our investments are not publicly traded, applicable accounting standards require us to assume as part of our valuation process that our investments are sold in a principal market to market participants (even if we plan to hold an investment to maturity). Our valuations, and particularly valuations of private investments and private companies, are inherently uncertain, fluctuate over short periods of time and are often based on estimates, comparisons and qualitative evaluations of private information that may not reflect the full impact of the COVID- 19 pandemic and measures taken in response thereto. Any public health emergency, including the COVID- 19 pandemic or an outbreak of other existing or new epidemic diseases, or the threat thereof, and the resulting financial and economic market uncertainty could have a significant adverse impact on us and the fair value of our investments and our portfolio companies. Significant changes in the capital markets, such as the disruption in economic activity caused by the COVID- 19 pandemic, have limited and could continue to limit our investment originations, limit our ability to grow and have a material negative impact on our and our portfolio companies' operating results and the fair values of our debt and equity investments. Additionally, the recent disruption in economic activity caused by the COVID- 19 pandemic has had, and may continue to have, a negative effect on the potential for liquidity events involving our investments. The illiquidity of our investments may make it difficult for us to sell such investments to access capital, if required. As a result, we could realize significantly less than the value at which we have recorded our investments if we were required to sell them to increase our liquidity. An inability on our part to raise incremental capital, and any required sale of all or a portion of our investments as a result, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. ~~58~~Further ~~59~~Further, current market conditions may make it difficult to raise equity capital, extend the maturity of or refinance our existing indebtedness or obtain new indebtedness with similar terms and any failure to do so could have a material adverse effect on our business. The debt capital available to us in the future, if available at all, may bear a higher interest rate and may be available only on terms and conditions less favorable than those of our existing debt and such debt may need to be incurred in a rising interest rate environment. If we are unable to raise new debt or refinance our existing debt, then our equity investors will not benefit from the potential for increased returns on equity resulting from leverage, and we may be unable to make new commitments or to fund existing commitments to our portfolio companies. Any inability to extend the maturity of or refinance our existing debt, or to obtain new debt, could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. **We, our Advisor, and our portfolio companies may maintain cash balances at financial institutions that exceed federally insured limits and may otherwise be materially affected by adverse developments affecting the financial services industry, such as actual events or concerns involving liquidity, defaults or non- performance by financial institutions or transactional counterparties. Our cash and our Advisor' s cash is held in accounts at U. S. banking institutions that we believe are of high quality. Cash held by us, our Advisor and by our portfolio companies in non- interest- bearing and interest- bearing operating accounts may exceed the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, or FDIC, insurance limits. If such banking institutions were to fail, we, our Advisor, or our portfolio companies could lose all or a portion of those amounts held in excess of such insurance limitations. In addition, actual events involving limited liquidity, defaults, non- performance or other adverse developments that affect financial institutions, transactional counterparties or other companies in the financial services**

industry or the financial services industry generally, or concerns or rumors about any events of these kinds or other similar risks, have in the past and may in the future lead to market-wide liquidity problems, which could adversely affect our, our Advisor's and our portfolio companies' business, financial condition, results of operations, or prospects. Although we and our Advisor assess our and our portfolio companies' banking relationships as we believe necessary or appropriate, our and our portfolio companies' access to funding sources and other credit arrangements in amounts adequate to finance or capitalize our respective current and projected future business operations could be significantly impaired by factors that affect us, our Advisor or our portfolio companies, the financial institutions with which we, our Advisor or our portfolio companies have arrangements directly, or the financial services industry or economy in general. These factors could include, among others, events such as liquidity constraints or failures, the ability to perform obligations under various types of financial, credit or liquidity agreements or arrangements, disruptions or instability in the financial services industry or financial markets, or concerns or negative expectations about the prospects for companies in the financial services industry. These factors could involve financial institutions or financial services industry companies with which we, our Advisor or our portfolio companies have financial or business relationships, but could also include factors involving financial markets or the financial services industry generally. In addition, investor concerns regarding the U. S. or international financial systems could result in less favorable commercial financing terms, including higher interest rates or costs and tighter financial and operating covenants, or systemic limitations on access to credit and liquidity sources, thereby making it more difficult for us, our Advisor, or our portfolio companies to acquire financing on acceptable terms or at all.

Terrorist attacks, acts of war, natural disasters, disease outbreaks or pandemics may impact our portfolio companies and harm our business, operating results and financial condition. Terrorist acts, acts of war, natural disasters, disease outbreaks, pandemics, or other similar events may disrupt our operations, as well as the operations of our portfolio companies. Such acts have created, and continue to create, economic and political uncertainties and have contributed to recent global economic instability. Future terrorist activities, military or security operations, natural disasters, disease outbreaks, pandemics, or other similar events could further weaken the domestic / global economies and create additional uncertainties, which may negatively impact our portfolio companies and, in turn, could have a material adverse impact on our business, operating results, and financial condition. Losses from terrorist attacks and natural disasters are generally uninsurable. We incur significant costs as a result of being a publicly traded company. As a publicly traded company, we incur legal, accounting and other expenses, including costs associated with the periodic reporting requirements applicable to a company whose securities are registered under the Exchange Act as well as additional corporate governance requirements, including requirements under the Sarbanes- Oxley Act, and other rules implemented by the SEC. Compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes- Oxley Act involves significant expenditures, and non-compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes- Oxley Act would adversely affect us and the market price of our common stock. Under current SEC rules, we are required to report on our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes- Oxley Act and related rules and regulations of the SEC. As a result, we incur additional expenses that negatively impact our financial performance and our ability to make distributions. This process also results in a diversion of management's time and attention. We cannot be certain as to the timing of completion of our annual re- evaluation, testing and remediation actions or the impact of the same on our operations, and we cannot assure you that our internal control over financial reporting is or will be effective. In the event that we are unable to maintain compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes- Oxley Act and related rules, we and the market price of our securities may be adversely affected.

~~59~~**Our** business is highly dependent on the Advisor and its affiliates' communications and information systems. Any failure or interruption of those systems, including as a result of the termination of an agreement with any third- party service providers, could cause delays or other problems in our activities. Our financial, accounting, data processing, backup or other operating systems and facilities may fail to operate properly or become disabled or damaged as a result of a number of factors including events that are wholly or partially beyond our control and adversely affect our business. There could be:

- sudden electrical or telecommunications outages;
- natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, tornadoes and hurricanes;
- disease pandemics; and
- events arising from local or larger scale political or social matters, including terrorist acts.

Any of these events, could have a material adverse effect on our operating results and negatively affect the market price of our common stock and our ability to pay distributions to our stockholders. In addition, these communications and information systems are subject to potential attacks, including through adverse events that threaten the confidentiality, integrity or availability of our information resources (i. e., cyber incidents). These attacks could involve gaining unauthorized access to our information systems for purposes of misappropriating assets, stealing confidential information, corrupting data or causing operational disruption and result in disrupted operations, misstated or unreliable financial data, liability for stolen assets or information, increased cybersecurity protection and insurance costs, litigation and damage to our business relationships, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. As our reliance on technology has increased, so have the risks posed to our information systems, both internal and those provided by the Advisor and third- party service providers. We, along with our Advisor, have implemented processes, procedures and internal controls to help mitigate cybersecurity risks and cyber intrusions, but these measures, as well as our increased awareness of the nature and extent of the risk of a cyber incident, may be ineffective and do not guarantee that a cyber incident will not occur or that our financial results, operations or confidential information will not be negatively impacted by such an incident. In addition, the costs related to cyber or other security threats or disruptions may not be fully insured or indemnified by other means. Furthermore, cybersecurity has become a top priority for regulators around the world, and some jurisdictions have enacted laws requiring companies to notify individuals of data security breaches involving certain types of personal data. If we fail to comply with the relevant laws and regulations, we could suffer financial losses, a disruption of our businesses, liability to investors, regulatory intervention or reputational damage. We are subject to risks associated with an uncertain interest rate environment that may affect our cost of capital and net investment income. While interest rates have reached their highest levels in the recent

past, it is uncertain when and at what pace interest rates will decline. Because we currently incur indebtedness to fund our investments, a portion of our income depends upon the difference between the interest rate at which we borrow funds and the interest rate at which we invest these funds. To the extent our investments have fixed interest rates or have interest rate floors that are higher than the floor on, or interest rates that “ reset ” less frequently than, the Credit Facilities, increases in interest rates can lead to interest rate compression and have a material adverse effect on our net investment income. In addition to increasing the cost of borrowed funds, which may materially reduce our net investment income, rising interest rates may also adversely affect our ability to obtain additional debt financing on terms as favorable as under our current debt financings, or at all. See “ — If we are unable to obtain additional debt financing, our business could be materially adversely affected. ” **60In** **61In** the current high interest rate environment, there is a risk that the portfolio companies in which we hold floating rate securities will be unable to pay escalating interest amounts, which could result in a default under their loan documents with us. Rising interest rates could also cause portfolio companies to shift cash from other productive uses to the payment of interest, which may have a material adverse effect on their business and operations and could, over time, lead to increased defaults on our investments in such portfolio companies. In addition, increasing payment obligations under floating rate loans may cause borrowers to refinance or otherwise repay our loans earlier than they otherwise would, requiring us to incur management time and expense to re- deploy such proceeds, including on terms that may not be as favorable as our existing loans. In addition, rising interest rates may increase pressure on us to provide fixed rate loans to our portfolio companies, which could adversely affect our net investment income, as increases in our cost of borrowed funds would not be accompanied by increased interest income from such fixed- rate investments. We may hedge against interest rate fluctuations by using hedging instruments such as caps, swaps, futures, options and forward contracts, subject to applicable legal requirements, including all necessary registrations (or exemptions from registration) with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. See Item 7A. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk. These activities may limit our ability to benefit from lower interest rates with respect to the hedged portfolio. Adverse developments resulting from changes in interest rates or hedging transactions or any adverse developments from our use of hedging instruments could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, we may be unable to enter into appropriate hedging transactions when desired and any hedging transactions we enter into may not be effective. As a rise in the general level of interest rates can be expected to lead to higher interest rates applicable to our debt investments, an increase in interest rates would make it easier for us to meet or exceed the hurdle rate applicable to the incentive fee and may result in a substantial increase in the amount of incentive fees payable to the Advisor with respect to Pre- Incentive Fee Net Investment Income. Also, an increase in interest rates on investments available to investors could make investment in our common stock less attractive if we are not able to increase our distributions, which could materially reduce the value of our common stock. ~~As of the date of this filing, nearly all of our floating rate investments are linked to the prime rate. We expect that substantially all of our future floating rate investments will be linked to the prime rate. We may need to renegotiate any credit agreements extending beyond June 2023 with our portfolio companies that utilize LIBOR terms as a factor in determining the interest rate, in order to replace LIBOR with the new standard that is established, which may have an adverse effect on our overall financial condition or results of operations. As such, some or all of these credit agreements may bear a lower interest rate, which would adversely impact our financial condition or results of operations.~~ Because many of our investments are not and typically will not be in publicly traded securities, the value of our investments may not be readily determinable, which could adversely affect the determination of our NAV. Our investments consist, and we expect our future investments to consist, primarily of debt investments or securities issued by privately held companies. As these investments are not publicly traded, their fair value may not be readily determinable. In addition, we are not permitted to maintain a general reserve for anticipated debt investment losses. Instead, we are required by the 1940 Act to specifically value each investment and record an unrealized gain or loss for any asset that we believe has increased or decreased in value. We value these investments on a quarterly basis, or more frequently as circumstances require, in accordance with our valuation policy and consistent with GAAP. Our Board employs independent third- party valuation firms to assist it in arriving at the fair value of our investments. Our Board discusses valuations and determines the fair value in good faith based on the input of our Advisor and the third- party valuation firms. The factors that may be considered in fair value pricing our investments include the nature and realizable value of any collateral, the portfolio company’ s earnings and its ability to make payments on its indebtedness, the markets in which the portfolio company does business, comparisons to publicly traded companies, discounted cash flow and other relevant factors. Because such valuations are inherently uncertain and may be based on estimates, our determinations of fair value may differ materially from the values that would be assessed if a ready market for these securities existed. Our NAV could be adversely affected if our determinations regarding the fair value of our investments are materially higher than the values that we ultimately realize upon the disposal of these investments. ~~61We~~ **62We** are subject to risks related to corporate social responsibility. Our business faces increasing public scrutiny related to environmental, social and governance (“ ESG ”) activities. We risk damage to our brand and reputation if we fail to act responsibly in a number of areas, such as environmental stewardship, corporate governance and transparency and considering ESG factors in our investment processes. Adverse incidents with respect to ESG activities could impact the value of our brand, the cost of our operations and relationships with investors, all of which could adversely affect our business and results of operations. Additionally, new regulatory initiatives related to ESG could adversely affect our business. The effect of global climate change may impact the operations of our portfolio companies. There may be evidence of global climate change. Climate change creates physical and financial risk and some of our portfolio companies may be adversely affected by climate change. For example, the needs of customers of energy companies vary with weather conditions, primarily temperature and humidity. To the extent weather conditions are affected by climate change, energy use could increase or decrease depending on the duration and magnitude of any changes. Increases in the cost of energy could adversely affect the cost of operations of our portfolio companies if the use of energy products or services is material to their business. A decrease in energy use due to weather

changes may affect some of our portfolio companies' financial condition through, for example, decreased revenues. Extreme weather conditions in general require more system backup, adding to costs, and can contribute to increased system stresses, including service interruptions. Inflation may adversely affect the business, results of operations and financial condition of our portfolio companies. Certain of our portfolio companies may be impacted by inflation. If such portfolio companies are unable to pass any increases in their costs along to their customers, it could adversely affect their results and impact their ability to pay interest and principal on our loans. In addition, any projected future decreases in our portfolio companies' operating results due to inflation could adversely impact the fair value of those investments. Any decreases in the fair value of our investments could result in future unrealized losses and therefore reduce our net assets resulting from operations.