

WELLS FARGO UTILITIES & HIGH INCOME FUND

Form N-CSR

November 01, 2016

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**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM N-CSR**

**CERTIFIED SHAREHOLDER REPORT OF REGISTERED**

**MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES**

**Investment Company Act file number: 811-21507**

**Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)**

**525 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94105**

**(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)**

**C. David Messman**

**Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC**

**525 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94105**

**(Name and address of agent for service)**

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 800-222-8222**

**Date of fiscal year end: August 31**

**Date of reporting period: August 31, 2016**

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**ITEM 1. REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS**

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**Annual Report**

August 31, 2016

**Wells Fargo**

**Utilities and High Income Fund (ERH)**

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\*A complete schedule of portfolio holdings as of the report date may be obtained, free of charge, by accessing the following website:  
<https://www.wellsfargofunds.com/assets/edocs/regulatory/holdings/utilities-and-high-income-ann.pdf> or by calling Wells Fargo Funds at **1-800-222-8222**. This complete schedule, filed on Form N-CSR, is also available on the SEC's website at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov).

The views expressed and any forward-looking statements are as of August 31, 2016, unless otherwise noted, and are those of the Fund managers and/or Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC. Discussions of individual securities, or the markets generally, or any Wells Fargo Fund are not intended as individual recommendations. Future events or results may vary significantly from those expressed in any forward-looking statements. The views expressed are subject to change at any time in response to changing circumstances in the market. Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC and the Fund disclaim any obligation to publicly update or revise any views expressed or forward-looking statements.

**NOT FDIC INSURED ; NO BANK GUARANTEE ; MAY LOSE VALUE**

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2 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Letter to shareholders (unaudited)

**Karla M. Rabusch**

President

Wells Fargo Funds

**For the 12-month reporting period, U.S. stocks returned 12.55%, utilities stocks returned 20.32%, and high-yield bonds returned 9.18%**

**Dear Valued Shareholder:**

We are pleased to offer you this annual report for the Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund for the 12-month period that ended August 31, 2016. During this period, which began September 1, 2015, U.S. and international stock markets experienced heightened volatility, with intermittent rebounds interspersed with sell-offs; markets became especially volatile during June 2016 as the U.K.'s vote over whether to leave the European Union (E.U.) approached. For the 12-month reporting period, U.S. stocks returned 12.55%, utilities stocks returned 20.32%, and high-yield bonds returned 9.18% (as represented, respectively, by the S&P 500 Index,<sup>1</sup> S&P 500 Utilities Index,<sup>2</sup> and BofA Merrill Lynch U.S. High Yield Index<sup>3</sup>). The U.S. economy displayed resilience throughout the period, although growth was somewhat sluggish amid ongoing pressures that included slowing growth in China, a strengthening U.S. dollar, and uncertainty regarding interest-rate increases by the U.S. Federal Reserve (Fed). International economies faced deeper ongoing challenges.

**During the last four months of 2015, ongoing global concerns pressured economies and markets worldwide.**

China's slowdown, in particular, negatively affected many countries' economies. Because China is the world's largest importer of many commodities, a number of emerging markets' key commodities exporters struggled under the dual strains of reduced demand and depressed prices for commodities. In December 2015, the Fed, as expected, raised its target interest rate by 25 basis points (bps; 100 bps equals 1.00%) after keeping it near zero for seven years. The move reflected confidence in the U.S. economy's ability to stay healthy with less central-bank support. The Fed also clarified that future interest-rate increases would be gradual. Energy prices remained depressed during this period due to improved oil/natural gas extraction efficiency, lackluster industrial demand, and a warm start to the 2015-2016 heating season in the U.S. In this environment, utilities that are more sensitive to changing oil and natural gas prices tended to underperform investments in more stable, rate-based utilities (those that can charge customers rates that are set by

regulatory action). Within the high-yield bond market, performance was challenged by concerns about interest-rate increases and declining commodity prices.

**Market volatility increased globally in the first quarter of 2016.**

Most stock markets worldwide declined sharply in the first six weeks of 2016 on concerns such as weak global growth, falling commodity prices, and uncertainty over the timing and impact of Fed interest-rate increases. As the quarter progressed, fears abated somewhat and global markets generally rallied back. The U.S. economy ended the quarter on a positive note as much of the quarter's data reflected resiliency. With ongoing uncertainties about global growth and financial markets, however, the Fed held off from raising the target interest rate. Investors bid up the prices of utilities, which often are perceived as low-volatility, safe-haven stocks. Energy stocks gained modestly late in the quarter as oil prices began trending higher. High-yield bond returns declined early in the quarter and then rebounded as the quarter progressed.

**Worries over interest rates and the U.K.'s vote largely drove the markets during the second quarter of 2016.**

U.S. stocks began the quarter in positive territory but plunged briefly in mid-May following comments by Fed officials noting that a June interest-rate increase remained on the table. Once investors had processed this information, stocks again rallied. But the first three weeks of June brought heightened volatility, spurred largely

<sup>1</sup> The S&P 500 Index consists of 500 stocks chosen for market size, liquidity, and industry group representation. It is a market-value-weighted index with each stock's weight in the index proportionate to its market value. You cannot invest directly in an index.

<sup>2</sup> The S&P 500 Utilities Index is a market-value-weighted index that measures the performance of all stocks within the utilities sector of the S&P 500 Index. You cannot invest directly in an index.

<sup>3</sup> The BofA Merrill Lynch U.S. High Yield Index (formerly known as BofA Merrill Lynch High Yield Master II Index) is a market-capitalization-weighted index of domestic and Yankee high-yield bonds. The index tracks the performance of the high-yield securities traded in the U.S. bond market. You cannot invest directly in an index.

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Letter to shareholders (unaudited) Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 3

by a disappointing jobs report and uncertainty over whether the U.K. would remain in the E.U. The U.K.'s Brexit vote on June 23 shocked countries in Europe and much of the rest of the world. Stock markets plummeted as investors worried that the U.K.'s departure from the E.U. would slow global growth and prolong the low-interest-rate environment. Following the initial rout, however, U.S. stocks rallied as investors seemed to decide that any negative effects would be more localized and not create a serious risk for global growth. In contrast with the broader market, utilities stocks generally benefited in June, as investors turned more risk averse, and outperformed the overall market for the quarter. Within the high-yield bond market, firmer oil prices led to quarterly outperformance by energy-related bonds. Metals and mining bonds also outperformed as currency volatility sparked by Brexit boosted gold prices and economic data out of China stabilized other commodities prices.

**Utilities weakened in July/August 2016; high-yield bonds rallied.**

The U.S. economy continued to demonstrate resilience in July and August 2016, and expectations for another interest-rate hike by the Fed in the near future increased. In this environment, investors tended to shift toward areas of the market perceived as more risk-oriented and away from defensive sectors such as utilities, which lagged. High-yield bonds, in contrast, delivered positive results for both months, spurred by investors' improved appetite for risk; lower-quality bonds tended to outperform.

Don't let short-term uncertainty derail long-term investment goals. Periods of investment uncertainty can present challenges, but experience has taught us that maintaining long-term investment goals can be an effective way to plan for the future. Although diversification cannot guarantee an investment profit or prevent losses, we believe it can be an effective way to manage investment risk and potentially smooth out overall portfolio performance. We encourage investors to know their investments and to understand that appropriate levels of risk-taking may unlock opportunities.

Thank you for choosing to invest with Wells Fargo Funds. We appreciate your confidence in us and remain committed to helping you meet your financial needs.

Sincerely,

Karla M. Rabusch

President

Wells Fargo Funds



**We encourage investors to know their investments and to understand that appropriate levels of risk-taking may unlock opportunities.**

### **Notice to shareholders**

Effective May 25, 2016, the Fund's Board of Trustees approved a change to the investment strategy guidelines of the Fund which allowed the Fund to hold more than 20% of its assets in securities rated CCC or lower. However, additional securities rated CCC or lower cannot be added to the Fund if, at the time of purchase, more than 20% of the Fund's assets are rated CCC or lower.

On December 17, 2015, the Fund announced an open-market share repurchase program (the Buyback Program). Under the Buyback Program, the Fund may repurchase up to 10% of its outstanding shares within one year of December 17, 2015. The Fund's Board of Trustees has delegated to Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC, the Fund's adviser, full discretion to administer the Buyback Program including the determination of the amount and timing of repurchases in accordance with the best interests of the Fund and subject to applicable legal limitations.

For further information about your Fund, contact your investment professional, visit our website at **wellsfargofunds.com**, or call us directly at **1-800-222-8222**. We are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

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Performance highlights (unaudited)

**Investment objective**

The Fund seeks a high level of current income and moderate capital growth, with an emphasis on providing tax-advantaged dividend income.

**Adviser**

Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC

**Subadvisers**

Crow Point Partners, LLC

Wells Capital Management Incorporated

**Portfolio managers**

Niklas Nordenfelt, CFA®

Timothy P. O'Brien, CFA®

Phillip Susser

**Average annual total return (%) as of August 31, 2016<sup>1</sup>**

	1 year	5 year	10 year
Based on market value	27.83	11.22	4.34
Based on net asset value (NAV) per share	10.35*	9.51	4.34

**Figures quoted represent past performance, which is no guarantee of future results, and do not reflect taxes that a shareholder may pay on fund distributions or the sales of fund shares. Investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when sold, may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted, which assumes the reinvestment of dividends and capital gains. Performance figures of the Fund do not reflect brokerage commissions that a shareholder would pay on the purchase and sale of shares. If taxes and such brokerage commissions had been reflected, performance would have been lower. To obtain performance information current to the most recent month-end, please call 1-800-222-8222.**

The Fund's expense ratio for the year ended August 31, 2016, was 1.19% which includes 0.21% of interest expense.

**Comparison of NAV vs. market value<sup>2</sup>**

High-yield, lower-rated bonds may contain more risk due to the increased possibility of default. Foreign investments may contain more risk due to the inherent risks associated with changing political climates, foreign market instability, and foreign currency fluctuations. Risks of international investing are magnified in emerging or developing markets. Funds that concentrate their investments in a single industry or sector may face increased risk of price fluctuation due to adverse developments within that industry or sector. Small- and midcap securities may be subject to special risks associated with narrower product lines and limited financial resources compared with their large-cap counterparts. The use of leverage results in certain risks including, among others, the likelihood of greater volatility of net asset value and the market price of common shares. Derivatives involve additional risks, including interest-rate risk, credit risk, the risk of improper valuation, and the risk of noncorrelation to the relevant instruments they are designed to hedge or to closely track. There are numerous risks associated with transactions in options on securities. Illiquid securities may be subject to wide fluctuations in market value and may be difficult to sell. This closed-end fund is no longer offered as an initial public offering and is only offered through broker/ dealers on the secondary market. A closed-end fund is not required to buy its shares back from investors upon request.

<sup>1</sup>Total returns based on market value are calculated assuming a purchase of common stock on the first day and sale on the last day of the period reported. Total returns based on NAV are calculated based on the NAV at the beginning of the period and end of the period. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed for the purposes of these calculations to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan.

<sup>2</sup>This chart does not reflect any brokerage commissions charged on the purchase and sale of the Fund's common stock. Dividends and distributions paid by the Fund are included in the Fund's average annual total returns but have the effect of reducing the Fund's NAV.

\*Total return reflects litigation payments received during the year. Excluding the payments, the total return would have been 9.74%.

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Performance highlights (unaudited)  
**MANAGERS DISCUSSION**

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 5

The Fund's return based on its market value was 27.83% for the 12-month period that ended August 31, 2016. During the same period, the Fund's return based on its net asset value (NAV) was 10.35%. Based on its NAV return, the Fund underperformed relative to the ERH Blended Index<sup>3</sup> which returned 17.19%.

**Overview**

During the reporting period, the Fund's utilities holdings delivered weak results relative to the S&P 500 Utilities Index.<sup>4</sup> Some of the utilities positions were preferred stocks, which supported the Fund's income generation but lagged in terms of total return. Also, European and Canadian utilities stocks held in the Fund underperformed their U.S. peers. Energy holdings detracted from returns as well.

While the high-yield bond market delivered a positive return for the 12-month period overall, the path to that result was somewhat volatile. High-yield bonds delivered negative monthly results for the first five months of the reporting period, driven largely by depressed energy prices and other commodity-related issues; downgrades of large, investment-grade issuers into high-yield territory aggravated the decline. The high-yield market bounced back in mid-February 2016 and delivered positive monthly results for the remaining seven months of the period as commodity prices began to stabilize and improve and the issuer downgrades were absorbed by the high-yield market.

**Detractors from performance**

Among the Fund's utilities holdings, The Williams Companies, Incorporated, detracted significantly from performance. In addition to being pressured by depressed oil and gas prices early in the period, the company suffered other setbacks, including news that its expected acquisition by Energy Transfer Equity, L.P., had fallen through. Vivendi S.A. was a notable detractor as well. Both The Williams Companies and Vivendi were sold from the Fund during the period. Also, the Fund's holdings of cash and preferred stocks materially detracted from results as investors demonstrated their preference for common stocks within the utilities sector.

Within the Fund's allocation to high-yield bonds, the largest detractor from relative performance was an underweight to the metals and mining sector. Many companies that were downgraded from investment-grade to below-investment-grade during the period were in this sector, and they rebounded after being added to the high-yield bond index. Exposure to the electric utility and cable and satellite sectors also detracted from performance. The ratings distribution and maturity profile of the Fund's high-yield bond allocation had a slightly negative effect on results as well.

**Ten largest holdings (%) as of August 31, 2016<sup>5</sup>**

Enel SpA	4.59
Red Electrica Corporacion SA	4.39
Enagas SA	4.36
Eversource Energy	4.12
American Electric Power Company Incorporated	3.84
Edison International	3.70

Chunghwa Telecom Company Limited ADR	3.65
NextEra Energy Incorporated	3.59
American Water Works Company Incorporated	3.14
Endesa SA	3.11

**Credit quality as of August 31, 2016<sup>6</sup>**

<sup>3</sup> Source: Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC. The ERH Blended Index is weighted 70% S&P 500 Utilities Index and 30% BofA Merrill Lynch U.S. High Yield Index (formerly known as BofA Merrill Lynch High Yield Master II Index). The BofA Merrill Lynch U.S. High Yield Index is a market-capitalization-weighted index of domestic and Yankee high-yield bonds. The index tracks the performance of the high-yield securities traded in the U.S. bond market. You cannot invest directly in an index.

<sup>4</sup> The S&P 500 Utilities Index is a market-value-weighted index that measures the performance of all stocks within the utilities sector of the S&P 500 Index. You cannot invest directly in an index.

<sup>5</sup> The ten largest holdings, excluding cash and cash equivalents, are calculated based on the value of the investments divided by total net assets of the Fund. Holdings are subject to change and may have changed since the date specified.

<sup>6</sup> The credit quality distribution of portfolio holdings reflected in the chart is based on ratings from Standard & Poor's, Moody's Investors Service, and/or Fitch Ratings Ltd. Credit quality ratings apply to the underlying holdings of the Fund and not to the Fund itself. The percentages of the Fund's portfolio with the ratings depicted in the chart are calculated based on the total market value of fixed income securities held by the Fund. If a security was rated by all three rating agencies, the middle rating was utilized. If rated by two of three rating agencies, the lower rating was utilized, and if rated by one of the rating agencies, that rating was utilized. Standard & Poor's rates the creditworthiness of bonds, ranging from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). Ratings from A to CCC may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the rating categories. Standard & Poor's rates the creditworthiness of short-term notes from SP-1 (highest) to SP-3 (lowest). Moody's rates the creditworthiness of bonds, ranging from Aaa (highest) to C (lowest). Ratings Aa to B may be modified by the addition of a number 1 (highest) to 3 (lowest) to show relative standing within the ratings categories. Moody's rates the creditworthiness of short-term U.S. tax-exempt municipal securities from MIG 1/VMIG 1 (highest) to SG (lowest). Fitch rates the creditworthiness of bonds, ranging from AAA (highest) to D (lowest). Credit quality distribution is subject to change and may have changed since the date specified.

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**6 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund  
Contributors to performance**

Performance highlights (unaudited)

Notable contributors to performance among the Fund's utilities stocks included American Water Works Company, Incorporated; American Electric Power Company, Incorporated; and Edison International. Shenandoah Telecommunications Company also significantly benefited results; the company's stock was up more than 30% year over year, despite declining sharply following a weak report for the second quarter of 2016.

The Fund's allocation to high-yield bonds benefited from a meaningful overweight to the midstream industry and solid security selection within that industry. Exposure to the health care and information technology industries contributed positively as well. Although positioning was unfavorable in the energy exploration and production and oilfield-services sectors, performance by the Fund's holdings within those sectors largely offset the impact of the positioning.

**Country allocation as of August 31, 2016<sup>7</sup>**

**Management outlook**

With regard to the Fund's allocation to utilities stocks, we are seeing what appears to be a more solid and accelerating economic recovery in the U.S. In our view, shorter-term interest rates could soon rise. However, the outlook for 10-year interest rates, which are highly correlated with the dividend yields of utilities stocks, is less clear to us. Stronger economic growth may be positive for utilities suffering from weak sales, while higher interest rates could provide a near-term challenge for utilities stocks. Over the longer term, fundamentals for

operators of regulated utilities appear robust. The outlook for utilities with significant exposure to commodities prices, however, remains challenging.

With respect to the broad high-yield market, we believe high-yield bonds may remain relatively stable and potentially outperform other fixed-income asset classes that may be more affected by a rising-interest-rate environment. While default rates rose over the reporting period, most of the increase was concentrated in the energy and commodities industries. Bankruptcies likely will remain concentrated in those industries in the near term; however, many of the weakest companies already have filed for bankruptcy. In the long run, we expect the relative performance of high-yield bonds will be driven primarily by corporate fundamentals and defaults. In the near term, our default outlook remains fairly benign, with the exception of the energy sector and other commodities sectors. Over a full cycle, we believe the best way to protect the Fund's high-yield bond allocation from periodic bouts of systemic fears and rebalancing is by following a bottom-up investment process that attempts to minimize downside risk and capture the return potential of high-yield issuers.

<sup>7</sup>Amounts are calculated based on the total long-term investments of the Fund. These percentages are subject to change and may have changed since the date specified.

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Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 7

The Summary portfolio of investments shows the 50 largest portfolio holdings in unaffiliated issuers and any holdings exceeding 1% of the total net assets as of the report date. The remaining securities held are grouped as Other securities in each category.

Security name	Shares	Value	Percent of net assets
<b>Common Stocks: 66.82%</b>			
<b>Energy: 2.30%</b>			
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels: 2.30%</b>			
<i>Spectra Energy Corporation</i>	75,000	\$ 2,671,500	2.27%
<i>Other securities</i>		33,385	0.03
		2,704,885	2.30
<b>Telecommunication Services: 11.81%</b>			
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services: 9.85%</b>			
<i>CenturyLink Incorporated #</i>	75,000	2,085,000	1.77
<i>Chunghwa Telecom Company Limited ADR</i>	120,000	4,302,000	3.65
<i>Orange SA</i>	200,000	3,054,103	2.59
<i>Verizon Communications Incorporated</i>	41,291	2,160,758	1.84
		11,601,861	9.85
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services: 1.96%</b>			
<i>Shenandoah Telecommunications Company</i>	90,000	2,314,800	1.96
<b>Utilities: 52.71%</b>			
<b>Electric Utilities: 39.91%</b>			
<i>American Electric Power Company Incorporated</i>	70,000	4,519,900	3.84



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<i>Duke Energy Corporation</i>	30,514	2,430,745	2.06
<i>Edison International</i>	60,000	4,363,200	3.70
<i>Endesa SA</i>	180,000	3,666,262	3.11
<i>Enel SpA</i>	1,225,000	5,408,316	4.59
<i>Eversource Energy</i>	90,000	4,857,300	4.12
<i>Exelon Corporation</i>	16,000	544,000	0.46
<i>Great Plains Energy Incorporated</i>	100,000	2,716,000	2.31
<i>IDACORP Incorporated</i>	25,000	1,901,750	1.62
<i>NextEra Energy Incorporated</i>	35,000	4,232,900	3.59
<i>PNM Resources Incorporated</i>	75,000	2,384,250	2.02
<i>Red Electrica Corporacion SA</i>	240,000	5,168,104	4.39
<i>Spark Energy Incorporated Class A</i>	36,700	1,063,933	0.90
<i>Terna SpA</i>	650,000	3,358,398	2.85
<i>Other securities</i>		400,895	0.35
		47,015,953	39.91
<b>Gas Utilities: 4.39%</b>			
<i>Enagas SA</i>	175,000	5,138,740	4.37
<i>Other securities</i>		25,328	0.02
		5,164,068	4.39
<b>Multi-Utilities: 5.27%</b>			
<i>CenterPoint Energy Incorporated</i>	50,000	1,123,500	0.95
<i>Hera SpA</i>	300,000	831,234	0.71

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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8 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Security name	Shares	Value	Percent of net assets
<b>Multi-Utilities (continued)</b>			
<i>Public Service Enterprise Group Incorporated</i>	50,000	\$ 2,138,000	1.81%
<i>Sempra Energy</i>	19,900	2,082,137	1.77
<i>Other securities</i>		34,033	0.03
		6,208,904	5.27
<b>Water Utilities: 3.14%</b>			
<i>American Water Works Company Incorporated</i>	50,000	3,699,500	3.14
<b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$60,295,682)</b>		78,709,971	66.82
<b>Corporate Bonds and Notes: 30.77%</b>			
<b>Consumer Discretionary: 5.94%</b>			
<b>Auto Components: 0.20%</b>			
<i>Other securities</i>		235,150	0.20
<b>Distributors: 0.09%</b>			
<i>Other securities</i>		101,000	0.09
	<b>Interest rate</b>	<b>Maturity date</b>	<b>Principal</b>
<b>Diversified Consumer Services: 0.41%</b>			
<i>Service Corporation International</i>	7.50%	4-1-2027	\$ 351,000
<i>Other securities</i>			410,670
			75,270
			485,940
			0.35
			0.06
			0.41

**Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure:****1.12%**

<i>CCM Merger Incorporated 144A</i>	9.13	5-1-2019	465,000	487,669	0.41
<i>Greektown Holdings LLC 144A</i>	8.88	3-15-2019	675,000	712,125	0.61
<i>Other securities</i>				118,766	0.10
				1,318,560	1.12

**Household Durables: 0.21%**

<i>Other securities</i>				245,401	0.21
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**Leisure Products: 0.04%**

<i>Other securities</i>				42,100	0.04
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**Media: 2.94%**

<i>Other securities</i>				3,466,111	2.94
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**Specialty Retail: 0.85%**

<i>Other securities</i>				1,005,842	0.85
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**Textiles, Apparel & Luxury****Goods: 0.08%**

<i>Other securities</i>				96,526	0.08
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**Consumer Staples: 0.50%****Beverages: 0.10%**

<i>Other securities</i>				114,475	0.10
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 9

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value	Percent of net assets
<b>Food Products: 0.38%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				\$ 449,677	0.38%
<b>Household Products: 0.02%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				21,475	0.02
<b>Energy: 7.43%</b>					
<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services: 2.42%</b>					
<i>NGPL PipeCo LLC</i>	7.12-9.63%	12-15-2017 to 6-1-2019	\$ 225,000	234,413	0.20
<i>NGPL PipeCo LLC 144A</i>	7.77	12-15-2037	950,000	1,016,500	0.86
<i>Other securities</i>				1,593,769	1.36
				2,844,682	2.42
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels: 5.01%</b>					
<i>Rockies Express Pipeline LLC 144A</i>	6.88	4-15-2040	425,000	429,250	0.36
<i>Ultra Petroleum Corporation 144A(s)</i>	6.13	10-1-2024	550,000	448,250	0.38
<i>Other securities</i>				5,029,620	4.27
				5,907,120	5.01
<b>Financials: 4.83%</b>					
<b>Banks: 0.30%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				352,006	0.30
<b>Capital Markets: 0.27%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				317,625	0.27

**Consumer Finance:**

**1.30%**

<i>Other securities</i>				1,523,957	1.30
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**Diversified Financial**

**Services: 0.52%**

<i>Other securities</i>				613,650	0.52
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**Insurance: 0.43%**

<i>Other securities</i>				502,938	0.43
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**Real Estate Management &**

**Development: 0.30%**

<i>Other securities</i>				357,000	0.30
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**REITs: 1.71%**

<i>Other securities</i>				2,016,682	1.71
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**Health Care: 3.10%**

**Health Care Equipment &**

**Supplies: 0.72%**

<i>Other securities</i>				842,363	0.72
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**Health Care Providers &**

**Services: 1.84%**

<i>Select Medical Corporation</i>	6.38	6-1-2021	405,000	405,506	0.34
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<i>Other securities</i>				1,764,622	1.50
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				2,170,128	1.84
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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10 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value	Percent of net assets
<b>Health Care Technology: 0.45%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				\$ 534,413	0.45%
<b>Pharmaceuticals: 0.09%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				105,822	0.09
<b>Industrials: 1.45%</b>					
<b>Airlines: 0.10%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				117,500	0.10
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies: 0.44%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				513,082	0.44
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering: 0.20%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				234,650	0.20
<b>Professional Services: 0.01%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				17,500	0.01
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors: 0.70%</b>					
<i>Ashtead Capital Incorporated 144A</i>	6.50%	7-15-2022	\$ 400,000	422,000	0.36
<i>Other securities</i>				407,753	0.34
				829,753	0.70
<b>Information Technology: 2.61%</b>					
<b>Communications Equipment: 0.09%</b>					

<i>Other securities</i>				106,125	0.09
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components: 0.70%</b>					
<i>Jabil Circuit Incorporated</i>	8.25	3-15-2018	620,000	674,250	0.57
<i>Other securities</i>				146,475	0.13
				820,725	0.70
<b>Internet Software &amp; Services: 0.12%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				147,381	0.12
<b>IT Services: 0.19%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				219,255	0.19
<b>Semiconductors &amp; Semiconductor Equipment: 0.30%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				349,188	0.30
<b>Software: 0.20%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				240,408	0.20
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals: 1.01%</b>					
<i>Diamond 1 Finance Corporation / Diamond 2 Finance Corporation 144A</i>	7.13	6-15-2024	425,000	460,192	0.39
<i>NCR Corporation</i>	6.38	12-15-2023	450,000	475,875	0.41
<i>Other securities</i>				253,883	0.21
				1,189,950	1.01

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 11

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value	Percent of net assets
<b>Materials: 0.68%</b>					
<b>Chemicals: 0.02%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				\$ 22,812	0.02%
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging: 0.64%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				748,705	0.64
<b>Metals &amp; Mining: 0.02%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				26,500	0.02
<b>Telecommunication Services: 3.03%</b>					
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services: 1.23%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				1,449,688	1.23
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services: 1.80%</b>					
<i>Sprint Capital Corporation</i>	6.88%	11-15-2028	\$ 850,000	760,487	0.65
<i>T-Mobile USA Incorporated</i>	6.73	4-28-2022	375,000	394,219	0.33
<i>Other securities</i>				969,767	0.82
				2,124,473	1.80
<b>Utilities: 1.20%</b>					
<b>Electric Utilities: 0.25%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				293,797	0.25
<b>Gas Utilities: 0.09%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				107,125	0.09



**Independent Power & Renewable**

**Electricity Producers: 0.86%**

*TerraForm Power Operating LLC*

*144A*

5.88

2-1-2023

400,000

401,500

0.34

*Other securities*

612,086

0.52

1,013,586

0.86

**Total Corporate Bonds and Notes (Cost  
\$34,767,636)**

36,242,846

30.77

**Loans: 0.87%**

**Consumer Discretionary: 0.23%**

**Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure:**

**0.08%**

*Other securities*

97,279

0.08

**Specialty Retail: 0.15%**

*Other securities*

176,714

0.15

**Energy: 0.05%**

**Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels:**

**0.05%**

*Other securities*

51,563

0.05

**Financials: 0.04%**

**Diversified Financial Services:**

**0.04%**

*Other securities*

48,000

0.04

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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12 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value	Percent of net assets
<b>Health Care: 0.10%</b>					
<b>Pharmaceuticals: 0.10%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				\$ 121,377	0.10%
<b>Industrials: 0.04%</b>					
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies: 0.04%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				46,384	0.04
<b>Information Technology: 0.02%</b>					
<b>Technology Hardware, Storage &amp; Peripherals: 0.02%</b>					
<i>Other securities</i>				27,200	0.02
<b>Utilities: 0.39%</b>					
<b>Electric Utilities: 0.39%</b>					
<i>Texas Competitive Electric Holdings Company LLC ±(s)</i>	4.66%	10-10-2016	\$ 1,471,940	463,293	0.39
<b>Total Loans (Cost \$2,043,173)</b>				1,031,810	0.87
	<b>Dividend yield</b>		<b>Shares</b>		
<b>Preferred Stocks: 7.40%</b>					
<b>Utilities: 7.40%</b>					
<b>Electric Utilities: 6.34%</b>					
<i>Alabama Power Company</i>	6.45		41,284	1,109,508	0.94
<i>Baltimore Gas &amp; Electric Company</i>	6.70		9,312	946,041	0.80
<i>Entergy Louisiana LLC</i>	4.88		30,000	750,000	0.64

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<i>Indianapolis Power &amp; Light Company</i>	5.65	28,811	2,936,022	2.49
<i>Nextera Energy Capital</i>	5.25	18,826	481,569	0.41
<i>The Connecticut Light &amp; Power Company</i>	5.28	12,000	620,250	0.53
<i>The Connecticut Light &amp; Power Company</i>	6.56	12,000	622,500	0.53
			7,465,890	6.34
<b>Multi-Utilities: 1.06%</b>				
<i>Dominion Resources Incorporated</i>	5.25	22,000	564,300	0.48
<i>Integrys Holding Incorporated ±</i>	5.47	25,050	687,372	0.58
			1,251,672	1.06
<b>Total Preferred Stocks (Cost \$8,526,046)</b>			8,717,562	7.40
<b>Warrants: 0.00%</b>				
<b>Utilities: 0.00%</b>				
<b>Gas Utilities: 0.00%</b>				
<i>Other securities</i>			304	0.00
<b>Total Warrants (Cost \$30,480)</b>			304	0.00

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 13

Security name	Value	Percent of net assets
<b>Yankee Corporate Bonds and Notes: 2.34%</b>		
<b>Energy: 0.50%</b>		
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels: 0.50%</b>		
<i>Other securities</i>	\$ 593,247	0.50%
<b>Financials: 0.03%</b>		
<b>Banks: 0.03%</b>		
<i>Other securities</i>	31,275	0.03
<b>Health Care: 0.73%</b>		
<b>Pharmaceuticals: 0.73%</b>		
<i>Other securities</i>	857,952	0.73
<b>Industrials: 0.23%</b>		
<b>Building Products: 0.01%</b>		
<i>Other securities</i>	16,200	0.01
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies: 0.20%</b>		
<i>Other securities</i>	230,450	0.20
<b>Machinery: 0.02%</b>		
<i>Other securities</i>	20,700	0.02
<b>Materials: 0.17%</b>		
<b>Containers &amp; Packaging: 0.15%</b>		
<i>Other securities</i>	179,578	0.15
<b>Metals &amp; Mining: 0.02%</b>		

<i>Other securities</i>			26,063	0.02
<b>Telecommunication Services: 0.68%</b>				
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services: 0.64%</b>				
<i>Other securities</i>			753,198	0.64
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services: 0.04%</b>				
<i>Other securities</i>			50,000	0.04
<b>Total Yankee Corporate Bonds and Notes (Cost \$3,431,451)</b>				
			2,758,663	2.34
	<b>Yield</b>	<b>Shares</b>		
<b>Short-Term Investments: 10.16%</b>				
<b>Investment Companies: 10.16%</b>				
<i>Wells Fargo Government Money Market Select Class (l)(u)##</i>	0.32%	11,972,808	11,972,808	10.16
<b>Total Short-Term Investments (Cost \$11,972,808)</b>				
			11,972,808	10.16
<b>Total investments in securities (Cost \$121,067,276) *</b>				
<i>Other assets and liabilities, net</i>			(21,633,722)	(18.36)
<b>Total net assets</b>				
			<b>\$ 117,800,242</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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14 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Summary portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

# All or a portion of this security is segregated as collateral for investments in derivative instruments.

144A The security may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers, pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities Act of 1933.

(s) The security is currently in default with regards to scheduled interest and/or principal payments. The Fund has stopped accruing interest on the security.

± Variable rate investment. The rate shown is the rate in effect at period end.

(I) The issuer of the security is an affiliate of the Fund as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940.

(u) The rate represents the 7-day annualized yield at period end.

## All or a portion of this security is segregated for when-issued securities.

\* Cost for federal income tax purposes is \$121,553,836 and unrealized gains (losses) consists of:

Gross unrealized gains	\$ 23,024,618
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Gross unrealized losses	(5,144,490)
Net unrealized gains	\$ 17,880,128

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Statement of assets and liabilities August 31, 2016 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 15

**Assets****Investments**

In unaffiliated securities, at value (cost \$109,094,468)	\$ 127,461,156
In affiliated securities, at value (cost \$11,972,808)	11,972,808

Total investments, at value (cost \$121,067,276)	139,433,964
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$28,643)	28,595
Receivable for investments sold	220,252
Receivable for dividends and interest	1,256,136
Prepaid expenses and other assets	6,780

Total assets	140,945,727
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**Liabilities**

Dividends payable	692,830
Payable for investments purchased	226,406
Written options, at value (premiums received \$52,977)	8,155
Due to custodian bank	33,300
Secured borrowing payable	22,017,990
Advisory fee payable	72,274
Administration fee payable	6,023
Accrued expenses and other liabilities	88,507

Total liabilities	23,145,485
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<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 117,800,242</b>
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**NET ASSETS CONSIST OF**

Paid-in capital	\$ 151,570,364
Overdistributed net investment income	(190,837)
Accumulated net realized losses on investments	(51,986,590)
Net unrealized gains on investments	18,407,305

<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 117,800,242</b>
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**NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE**

Based on \$117,800,242 divided by 9,241,382 shares issued and outstanding (unlimited number of shares authorized)	\$12.75
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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## 16 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Statement of operations year ended August 31, 2016

**Investment income**

Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$457,362)	\$ 6,315,860
Interest	2,936,072
Income from affiliated securities	24,592
Total investment income	9,276,524

**Expenses**

Advisory fee	826,591
Administration fee	68,883
Custody and accounting fees	27,106
Professional fees	92,060
Shareholder report expenses	52,704
Trustees' fees and expenses	19,889
Transfer agent fees	33,435
Interest expense	238,420
Other fees and expenses	13,585
Total expenses	1,372,673
Net investment income	7,903,851

**REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAINS (LOSSES) ON INVESTMENTS****Net realized gains (losses) on:**

Unaffiliated securities	(664,783)
Written options	76,053
Net realized losses on investments	(588,730)

**Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on:**

Unaffiliated securities	3,793,965
Written options	44,822
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments	3,838,787
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	3,250,057
<b>Net increase in net assets resulting from operations</b>	<b>\$ 11,153,908</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Statement of changes in net assets	Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 17	
	Year ended August 31, 2016	Year ended August 31, 2015
<b>Operations</b>		
Net investment income	\$ 7,903,851	\$ 8,422,585
Net realized gains (losses) on investments	(588,730)	319,865
Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments	3,838,787	(13,285,652)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	11,153,908	(4,543,202)
<b>Distributions to shareholders from</b>		
Net investment income	(8,311,826)	(8,308,807)
<b>Capital share transactions</b>		
Net asset value of shares issued under the Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan	109,977	22,151
Total increase (decrease) in net assets	2,952,059	(12,829,858)
<b>Net assets</b>		
<b>Beginning of period</b>	<b>114,848,183</b>	<b>127,678,041</b>
<b>End of period</b>	<b>\$ 117,800,242</b>	<b>\$ 114,848,183</b>
<b>Undistributed (overdistributed) net investment income</b>	<b>\$ (190,837)</b>	<b>\$ 155,876</b>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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18 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Statement of cash flows year ended August 31, 2016

**Cash flows from operating activities:**

Net increase in net assets resulting from operations \$ 11,153,908

**Adjustments to reconcile net increase in net assets from operations to net cash provided by operating activities:**

Purchase of securities (115,052,557)

Proceeds from sale of securities 117,525,219

Amortization (218,987)

Purchase of short-term securities, net (2,793,237)

Decrease in receivable for investments sold 31,018

Increase in receivable for dividends and interest (12,233)

Decrease in prepaid expenses and other assets 2,036

Increase in payable for investments purchased 64,152

Increase in premiums received 52,977

Increase in due to custodian bank 33,300

Increase in secured borrowing payable 3,426

Increase in advisory fee payable 878

Increase in administration fee payable 73

Decrease in accrued expenses and other liabilities (21,776)

Litigation payments received 665,970

Net realized losses on investments 588,730

Net change in unrealized gains (losses) on investments (3,838,787)

Net cash provided by operating activities 8,184,110

**Cash flows from financing activities:**

Cash distributions paid (8,221,802)

Net cash used in financing activities (8,221,802)

Net decrease in cash (37,692)

**Cash (including foreign currency):**

Beginning of period \$ 66,287

End of period \$ 28,595

**Supplemental cash disclosure**

Cash paid for interest \$ 234,994

**Supplemental non-cash financing disclosure**

Reinvestment of dividends \$ 109,977

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

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Financial highlights Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 19  
 (For a share outstanding throughout each period)

	Year ended August 31				
	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
<b>Net asset value, beginning of period</b>	<b>\$12.44</b>	<b>\$13.83</b>	<b>\$12.24</b>	<b>\$11.74</b>	<b>\$11.75</b>
Net investment income	0.86	0.91	0.97 <sup>1</sup>	0.87 <sup>1</sup>	0.87 <sup>1</sup>
Net realized and unrealized gains (losses) on investments	0.35	(1.40)	1.52	0.53	0.02
Total from investment operations	1.21	(0.49)	2.49	1.40	0.89
<b>Distributions to shareholders from</b>					
Net investment income	(0.90)	(0.90)	(0.90)	(0.90)	(0.90)
<b>Net asset value, end of period</b>	<b>\$12.75</b>	<b>\$12.44</b>	<b>\$13.83</b>	<b>\$12.24</b>	<b>\$11.74</b>
<b>Market value, end of period</b>	<b>\$12.93</b>	<b>\$10.89</b>	<b>\$12.87</b>	<b>\$12.04</b>	<b>\$11.92</b>
<b>Total return based on market value<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>27.83%</b>	<b>(9.11)%</b>	<b>14.89%</b>	<b>8.93%</b>	<b>17.03%</b>
<b>Ratios to average net assets (annualized)</b>					
Net expenses <sup>3</sup>	1.19%	1.19%	1.11%	1.25%	1.20%
Net investment income	6.83%	6.88%	7.38%	7.11%	7.48%
<b>Supplemental data</b>					
Portfolio turnover rate	85%	61%	29%	65%	48%
Net assets, end of period (000s omitted)	\$117,800	\$114,848	\$127,678	\$113,001	\$108,327
Borrowings outstanding, end of period (000s omitted)	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
Asset coverage per \$1,000 of borrowing, end of period	\$6,355	\$6,220	\$6,804	\$6,136	\$5,866

<sup>1</sup> Calculated based upon average shares outstanding

<sup>2</sup> Total return is calculated assuming a purchase of common stock on the first day and a sale on the last day of the period reported. Dividends and distributions, if any, are assumed for purposes of these calculations to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan. Total return does not reflect brokerage

commissions that a shareholder would pay on the purchase and sale of shares.

<sup>3</sup> Ratios include interest expense relating to interest associated with borrowings and/or leverage transactions as follows:

Year ended August 31, 2016	0.21%
Year ended August 31, 2015	0.16%
Year ended August 31, 2014	0.19%
Year ended August 31, 2013	0.21%
Year ended August 31, 2012	0.25%

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.



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20 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Notes to financial statements

**1. ORGANIZATION**

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund (the Fund) was organized as a statutory trust under the laws of the state of Delaware on February 4, 2004. Originally classified as non-diversified, the Fund now is classified as a diversified closed-end management investment company and is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended. As an investment company, the Trust follows the accounting and reporting guidance in Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification Topic 946, *Financial Services – Investment Companies*.

**2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistently followed in the preparation of the financial statements of the Fund, are in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Securities valuation**

All investments are valued each business day as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (generally 4 p.m. Eastern Time), although the Fund may deviate from this calculation time under unusual or unexpected circumstances.

Equity securities and options that are listed on a foreign or domestic exchange or market are valued at the official closing price or, if none, the last sales price. If no sale occurs on the principal exchange or market that day, the prior day's price will be deemed stale and a fair value price will be determined in accordance with the Fund's Valuation Procedures.

Non-listed options are valued at the evaluated price provided by an independent pricing service or, if a reliable price is not available, the quoted bid price from an independent broker-dealer.

The values of securities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at rates provided by an independent foreign currency pricing source at a time each business day specified by the Management Valuation Team of Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC (Funds Management).

Many securities markets and exchanges outside the U.S. close prior to the close of the New York Stock Exchange and therefore may not fully reflect trading or events that occur after the close of the principal exchange in which the foreign securities are traded, but before the close of the New York Stock Exchange. If such trading or events are expected to materially affect the value of such securities, then fair value pricing procedures approved by the Board of Trustees of the Fund are applied. These procedures take into account multiple factors including movements in U.S. securities markets after foreign exchanges close. Foreign securities that are fair valued under these procedures are categorized as Level 2 and the application of these procedures may result in transfers between Level 1 and Level 2. Depending on market activity, such fair valuations may be frequent. Such fair value pricing may result in net asset values that are higher or lower than net asset values based on the last reported sales price or latest quoted bid price. On August 31, 2016, such fair value pricing was not used in pricing foreign securities.

Debt securities are valued at the evaluated bid price provided by an independent pricing service or, if a reliable price is not available, the quoted bid price from an independent broker-dealer.

Investments in registered open-end investment companies are valued at net asset value.

Investments which are not valued using any of the methods discussed above are valued at their fair value, as determined in good faith by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees has established a Valuation Committee comprised of the Trustees and has delegated to it the authority to take any actions regarding the valuation of portfolio securities that the Valuation Committee deems necessary or appropriate, including determining the fair value of portfolio securities, unless the determination has been delegated to the Management Valuation Team. The Board of Trustees retains the authority to make or ratify any valuation decisions or approve any changes to the Valuation Procedures as it deems appropriate. On a quarterly basis, the Board of Trustees receives reports on any valuation actions taken by the Valuation Committee or the Management Valuation Team which may include items for ratification.

Valuations of fair valued securities are compared to the next actual sales price when available, or other appropriate market values, to assess the continued appropriateness of the fair valuation methodologies used. These securities are fair valued on a day-to-day basis, taking into consideration changes to appropriate market information and any significant changes to the inputs considered in the valuation process until there is a readily available price provided on an exchange

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or by an independent pricing service. Valuations received from an independent pricing service or independent broker-dealer quotes are periodically validated by comparisons to most recent trades and valuations provided by other independent pricing services in addition to the review of prices by the manager and/or subadvisers. Unobservable inputs used in determining fair valuations are identified based on the type of security, taking into consideration factors utilized by market participants in valuing the investment, knowledge about the issuer and the current market environment.

### **Foreign currency translation**

The accounting records of the Fund are maintained in U.S. dollars. The values of other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at rates provided by an independent foreign currency pricing source at a time each business day specified by the Management Valuation Team. Purchases and sales of securities, and income and expenses are converted at the rate of exchange on the respective dates of such transactions. Net realized foreign exchange gains or losses arise from sales of foreign currencies, currency gains or losses realized between the trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, and the difference between the amounts of dividends, interest and foreign withholding taxes recorded and the U.S. dollar equivalent of the amounts actually paid or received. Net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses arise from changes in the fair value of assets and liabilities other than investments in securities resulting from changes in exchange rates. The changes in net assets arising from changes in exchange rates and the changes in net assets resulting from changes in market prices of securities are not separately presented. Such changes are included in net realized and unrealized gains or losses from investments.

### **When-issued transactions**

The Fund may purchase securities on a forward commitment or when-issued basis. The Fund records a when-issued transaction on the trade date and will segregate assets in an amount at least equal in value to the Fund's commitment to purchase when-issued securities. Securities purchased on a when-issued basis are marked-to-market daily and the Fund begins earning interest on the settlement date. Losses may arise due to changes in the market value of the underlying securities or if the counterparty does not perform under the contract.

### **Loans**

The Fund may invest in direct debt instruments which are interests in amounts owed to lenders by corporate or other borrowers. The loans pay interest at rates which are periodically reset by reference to a base lending rate plus a spread. Investments in loans may be in the form of participations in loans or assignments of all or a portion of loans from third parties. When the Fund purchases participations, it generally has no rights to enforce compliance with terms of the loan agreement with the borrower. As a result, the Fund assumes the credit risk of both the borrower and the lender that is selling the participation. When the Fund purchases assignments from lenders, it acquires direct rights against the borrower on the loan and may enforce compliance by the borrower with the terms of the loan agreement. Loans may include fully funded term loans or unfunded loan commitments, which are contractual obligations for future funding.

### **Options**

The Fund is subject to equity price risk in the normal course of pursuing its investment objectives. The Fund may write covered call options or secured put options on individual securities and/or indexes. When the Fund writes an option, an amount equal to the premium received is recorded as a liability and is subsequently adjusted to the current market value of the written option. Premiums received from written options that expire unexercised are recognized as realized gains on the expiration date. For exercised options, the difference between the premium received and the amount paid on effecting a closing purchase transaction, including brokerage commissions, is treated as a realized gain or loss. If a call option is exercised, the premium is added to the proceeds from the sale of the underlying security in calculating the realized gain or loss on the sale. If a put option is exercised, the premium reduces the cost of the security purchased. The Fund, as a writer of an option, bears the market risk of an unfavorable change in the price of the security and/or index underlying the written option.

The Fund may also purchase call or put options. Premiums paid are included in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as investments, the values of which are subsequently adjusted based on the current market values of the options. Premiums paid for purchased options that expire are recognized as realized losses on the expiration date. Premiums paid for purchased options that are exercised or closed are added to the amount paid or offset against the proceeds received for the underlying security to determine the realized gain or loss. The risk of loss associated with purchased options is limited to the premium paid.

Options traded on an exchange are regulated and terms of the options are standardized. Purchased options traded over-the-counter expose the Fund to counterparty risk in the event the counterparty does not perform. This risk can be mitigated by having a master netting arrangement between the Fund and the counterparty and by having the counterparty post collateral to cover the Fund's exposure to the counterparty.

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**22 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund  
Security transactions and income recognition**

Notes to financial statements

Securities transactions are recorded on a trade date basis. Realized gains or losses are recorded on the basis of identified cost.

Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date, except for certain dividends from foreign securities, which are recorded as soon as the custodian verifies the ex-dividend date. Dividend income from foreign securities is recorded net of foreign taxes withheld where recovery of such taxes is not assured.

Interest income is accrued daily and bond discounts are accreted and premiums are amortized daily based on the effective interest method. To the extent debt obligations are placed on non-accrual status, any related interest income may be reduced by writing off interest receivables when the collection of all or a portion of interest has become doubtful based on consistently applied procedures. If the issuer subsequently resumes interest payments or when the collectability of interest is reasonably assured, the debt obligation is removed from non-accrual status.

**Distributions to shareholders**

Distributions to shareholders from net investment income and net realized gains, if any, are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Such distributions are determined in conformity with federal income tax regulations, which may differ in amount or character from net investment income and realized gains recognized for purposes of U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

**Federal and other taxes**

The Fund intends to continue to qualify as a regulated investment company by distributing substantially all of its investment company taxable income and any net realized capital gains (after reduction for capital loss carryforwards) sufficient to relieve it from all, or substantially all, federal income taxes. Accordingly, no provision for federal income taxes was required.

The Fund's income and federal excise tax returns and all financial records supporting those returns for the prior three fiscal years are subject to examination by the federal and Delaware revenue authorities. Management has analyzed the Fund's tax positions taken on federal, state, and foreign tax returns for all open tax years and does not believe that there are any uncertain tax positions that require recognition of a tax liability.

Reclassifications are made to the Fund's capital accounts for permanent tax differences to reflect income and gains available for distribution (or available capital loss carryforwards) under federal income tax regulations. U.S. generally accepted accounting principles require that certain components of net assets be adjusted to reflect permanent differences between financial and tax reporting. These reclassifications have no effect on net assets or net asset values per share. The primary permanent differences causing such reclassifications are due to bond premiums and foreign currency transactions. At August 31, 2016, as a result of permanent book-to-tax differences, the following reclassification adjustments were made on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities:

Overdistributed net investment income	Accumulated net realized losses on investments
\$61,262	\$(61,262)

Capital loss carryforwards that do not expire are required to be utilized prior to capital loss carryforwards that expire. As of August 31, 2016, capital loss carryforwards available to offset future net realized capital gains were as follows through the indicated expiration dates:

2017	2018	No expiration Short-term
\$19,833,087	\$27,435,579	\$4,258,819

### 3. FAIR VALUATION MEASUREMENTS

Fair value measurements of investments are determined within a framework that has established a fair value hierarchy based upon the various data inputs utilized in determining the value of the Fund's investments. The three-level hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to significant unobservable inputs (Level 3). The Fund's investments are classified within the fair value hierarchy based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The inputs are summarized into three broad levels as follows:

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Notes to financial statements Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 23

n Level 1 quoted prices in active markets for identical securities

n Level 2 other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds, credit risk, use of amortized cost, etc.)

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

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

The following is a summary of the inputs used in valuing the Fund's assets and liabilities as of August 31, 2016:

	Quoted prices (Level 1)	Other significant observable inputs (Level 2)	Significant unobservable inputs (Level 3)	Total
<b>Assets</b>				
<b>Investments in:</b>				
<b>Common stocks</b>				
<i>Energy</i>	\$ 2,671,500	\$ 33,385	\$ 0	\$ 2,704,885
<i>Telecommunication services</i>	13,916,661	0	0	13,916,661
<i>Utilities</i>	62,088,425	0	0	62,088,425
<b>Corporate bonds and notes</b>	0	36,242,846	0	36,242,846
<b>Loans</b>	0	944,409	87,401	1,031,810
<b>Preferred stocks</b>				
<i>Utilities</i>	1,795,869	6,921,693	0	8,717,562
<b>Warrants</b>				
<i>Utilities</i>	0	304	0	304
<b>Yankee corporate bonds and notes</b>				
	0	2,721,416	37,247	2,758,663
<b>Short-term investments</b>				
<i>Investment companies</i>	11,972,808	0	0	11,972,808
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 92,445,263</b>	<b>\$ 46,864,053</b>	<b>\$ 124,648</b>	<b>\$ 139,433,964</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>				
<b>Written options</b>	\$ 0	\$ 8,155	\$ 0	\$ 8,155
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 8,155</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 8,155</b>

The Fund recognizes transfers between levels within the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period. At August 31, 2016, the Fund had no material transfers into/out of Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3.

#### **4. TRANSACTIONS WITH AFFILIATES AND OTHER EXPENSES**

##### **Advisory fee**

Funds Management, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Wells Fargo & Company ( Wells Fargo ) is the adviser to the Fund and is entitled to receive a fee at an annual rate of 0.60% of the Fund's average daily total assets. Total assets consist of net assets of the Fund plus borrowings or other leverage for investment purposes to the extent excluded in calculating net assets.

Funds Management has retained the services of certain investment subadvisers to provide daily portfolio management to the Fund. The fees for subadvisory services are borne by Funds Management. Wells Capital Management Incorporated (an affiliate of Funds Management and an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Wells Fargo) and Crow Point Partners, LLC are each investment subadvisers to the Fund and are each entitled to receive a fee from Funds Management at an annual rate of 0.20% of the Fund's average daily total assets.

##### **Administration fee**

Funds Management also serves as the administrator to the Fund, providing the Fund with a wide range of administrative services necessary to the operation of the Fund. Funds Management is entitled to receive an annual administration fee from the Fund equal to 0.05% of the Fund's average daily total assets.



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Notes to financial statements

**5. CAPITAL SHARE TRANSACTIONS**

The Fund has authorized an unlimited number of shares with no par value. For the years ended August 31, 2016 and August 31, 2015, the Fund issued 8,550 and 1,649 shares, respectively. During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Fund did not repurchase any of its shares under the open-market share repurchase program.

**6. BORROWINGS**

The Fund has borrowed \$22 million through a revolving credit facility administered by a major financial institution (the Facility). The Facility has a commitment amount of \$25 million with no specific contract expiration date but the Facility can be terminated upon 180 days' notice. The Fund is charged interest at London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) plus 0.70% and a commitment fee of 0.30% of the average daily unutilized amount of the commitment which is waived if the amount drawn on the Facility is over 75% of the committed amount.

At August 31, 2016, the Fund had borrowings outstanding in the amount of \$22,017,990 (including accrued interest payable). During the year ended August 31, 2016, an effective interest rate of 1.08% was incurred on the borrowings and the Fund incurred interest expense in the amount of \$238,420, representing 0.21% of the Fund's average daily net assets.

**7. INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS**

Purchases and sales of investments, excluding U.S. government obligations (if any) and short-term securities, for the year ended August 31, 2016 were \$111,824,517 and \$110,831,050, respectively.

The Fund may purchase or sell investment securities to other Wells Fargo funds under procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees. The procedures have been designed to ensure that these interfund transactions, which generally do not incur broker commissions, are effected at current market prices. Interfund trades are included within the respective purchases and sales amounts shown.

As of August 31, 2016, the Fund had unfunded term loan commitments of \$50,000.

**8. DERIVATIVE TRANSACTIONS**

During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Fund entered into written options for economic hedging purposes.

During the year ended August 31, 2016, the Fund had written call option activities as follows:

	Number of contracts	Premiums received
Options outstanding at August 31, 2015	0	\$ 0
Options written	1,340	131,293
Options expired	(386)	(58,849)
Options closed	(205)	(19,467)

Options outstanding at August 31, 2016	749	\$ 52,977
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Open call options written at August 31, 2016 were as follow for the Fund:

Expiration date	Counterparty	Description	Number of contracts	Strike price	Value
9-16-2016	JPMorgan	CenturyLink Incorporated	385 short	\$ 29	\$ (2,695)
10-21-2016	JPMorgan	CenturyLink Incorporated	364 short	30	(5,460)

The Fund had an average of 140 written call option contracts during the year ended August 31, 2016.

The fair value, realized gains or losses and change in unrealized gains or losses, if any, on derivative instruments are reflected in the appropriate financial statements.

For certain types of derivative transactions, the Fund has entered into International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc. master agreements ( ISDA Master Agreements ) or similar agreements with approved counterparties. The ISDA Master Agreements or similar agreements may have requirements to deliver/deposit securities or cash to/with an exchange or broker-dealer as collateral and allows the Fund to offset, with each counterparty, certain derivative financial instrument s assets and/or liabilities with collateral held or pledged. Collateral requirements differ by type of derivative. Collateral or margin requirements are set by the broker or exchange clearing house for exchange traded derivatives while collateral terms are contract specific for over-the-counter traded derivatives. Cash collateral that has been pledged to cover obligations of the Fund under ISDA Master Agreements or similar agreements, if any, are reported separately in the

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Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Securities pledged as collateral, if any, are noted in the Portfolio of Investments. With respect to balance sheet offsetting, absent an event of default by the counterparty or a termination of the agreement, the reported amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities are not offset across transactions between the Fund and the applicable counterparty. A reconciliation of the gross amounts on the Statement of Assets and Liabilities to the net amounts by derivative type, including any collateral exposure, is as follows:

Derivative type	Counterparty	Gross amounts of liabilities in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities	Amounts subject to netting agreements	Collateral pledged <sup>1</sup>	Net amount of liabilities
Written options	JPMorgan	\$8,155	\$ 0	\$ (8,155)	\$ 0

<sup>1</sup> Collateral pledged within this table is limited to the collateral for the net transaction with the counterparty.

**9. DISTRIBUTIONS TO SHAREHOLDERS**

The tax character of distributions paid was \$8,311,826 and \$8,308,807 of ordinary income for the years ended August 31, 2016 and August 31, 2015, respectively.

As of August 31, 2016, the components of distributable earnings on a tax basis were as follows:

Undistributed ordinary income	Unrealized gains	Capital loss carryforward
\$571,135	\$17,920,745	\$(51,527,485)

**10. CONCENTRATION RISK**

The Fund invests a substantial portion of its assets in utilities companies and, therefore, would be more affected by changes in that industry than would be a fund whose investments are not heavily weighted in the industry.

**11. INDEMNIFICATION**

Under the Fund's organizational documents, the officers and Trustees have been granted certain indemnification rights against certain liabilities that may arise out of performance of their duties to the Fund. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain a variety of indemnification clauses. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is dependent on future claims that may be made against the Fund and, therefore, cannot be estimated.

**12. SUBSEQUENT DISTRIBUTIONS**

The Fund declared the following distributions to shareholders:

Declaration date	Record date	Payable date	Per share amount
August 10, 2016	September 14, 2016	October 3, 2016	\$0.075
September 30, 2016	October 13, 2016	November 1, 2016	0.075
October 28, 2016	November 14, 2016	December 1, 2016	0.075

These distributions are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements. The final determination of the source of all distributions is subject to change and made after the Fund's tax year-end.

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26 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund                      Report of independent registered public accounting firm  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND SHAREHOLDERS OF WELLS FARGO UTILITIES AND HIGH INCOME FUND:**

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities, including the summary portfolio of investments, of the Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund (formerly known as Wells Fargo Advantage Utilities and High Income Fund) (the Fund ), as of August 31, 2016, and the related statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended. These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our procedures included confirmation of securities owned as of August 31, 2016, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers, or by other appropriate auditing procedures. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund as of August 31, 2016, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Boston, Massachusetts

October 24, 2016

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Other information (unaudited)

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 27

**TAX INFORMATION**

For corporate shareholders, pursuant to Section 854 of the Internal Revenue Code, 34.04% of ordinary income dividends qualify for the corporate dividends-received deduction for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2016.

Pursuant to Section 854 of the Internal Revenue Code, \$4,579,620 of income dividends paid during the fiscal year ended August 31, 2016 has been designated as qualified dividend income (QDI).

For the fiscal year ended August 31, 2016, \$2,414,092 has been designated as interest-related dividends for nonresident alien shareholders pursuant to Section 871 of the Internal Revenue Code.

**PROXY VOTING INFORMATION**

A description of the policies and procedures that the Fund uses to determine how to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities is available, upon request, by calling **1-800-222-8222**, visiting our website at **wellsfargofunds.com**, or visiting the SEC website at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). Information regarding how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available on the Fund's website at **wellsfargofunds.com** or by visiting the SEC website at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov).

**PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS INFORMATION**

The complete portfolio holdings for the Fund are publicly available monthly on the Fund's website (**wellsfargofunds.com**), on a one-month delayed basis. The Fund files its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC for the first and third quarters of each fiscal year on Form N-Q, which is available by visiting the SEC website at [sec.gov](http://sec.gov). In addition, the Fund's Form N-Q may be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC, and at regional offices in New York City, at 233 Broadway, and in Chicago, at 175 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 900. Information about the Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling 1-800-SEC-0330.

**Table of Contents****28 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS**

Other information (unaudited)

The following table provides basic information about the Board of Trustees and Officers of the Fund. Each of the Trustees and Officers listed below acts in identical capacities for each fund in the Wells Fargo family of funds, which consists of 139 mutual funds comprising the Wells Fargo Funds Trust, Wells Fargo Variable Trust, Wells Fargo Master Trust, and four closed-end funds, including the Fund (collectively the Fund Complex). The mailing address of each Trustee and Officer is 525 Market Street, 12th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105. The Board of Trustees is classified into three classes of which one is elected annually. Each Trustee serves a three-year term concurrent with the class from which the Trustee is elected. Each Officer serves an indefinite term.

**Independent Trustees**

Name and year of birth	Position held and length of service	Principal occupations during past five years or longer	Current other public company or investment company directorships
William R. Ebsworth (Born 1957)	Trustee, since 2015	Retired. From 1984 to 2013, equities analyst, portfolio manager, research director and chief financial officer at Fidelity Management and Research Company in Boston, Tokyo, and Hong Kong and retired in 2013 as Chief Investment Officer of Fidelity Strategic Advisers, Inc. where he lead a team of investment professionals managing client assets. Prior thereto, Board member of Hong Kong Securities Clearing Co., Hong Kong Options Clearing Corp., the Thailand International Fund, Ltd., Fidelity Investments Life Insurance Company, and Empire Fidelity Investments Life Insurance Company. Mr. Ebsworth is a CFA® charterholder and an Adjunct Lecturer, Finance, at Babson College.	Asset Allocation Trust
Jane A. Freeman (Born 1953)	Trustee, since 2015	Retired. From 2012 to 2014 and 1999 to 2008, Chief Financial Officer of Scientific Learning Corporation. From 2008 to 2012, Ms. Freeman provided consulting services related to strategic business projects. Prior to 1999, Portfolio Manager at Rockefeller & Co. and Scudder, Stevens & Clark. Board member of the Harding Loevner Funds from 1996 to 2014, serving as both Lead Independent Director and chair of the Audit Committee. Board member of the Russell Exchange Traded Funds Trust from 2011 to 2012 and the chair of the Audit Committee. Ms.	Asset Allocation Trust

		Freeman is a Board Member of Ruth Bancroft Garden (non-profit organization) and an inactive chartered financial analyst.	
Peter G. Gordon (Born 1942)	Trustee, since 2010; Chairman, since 2010	Co-Founder, Retired Chairman, President and CEO of Crystal Geyser Water Company. Trustee Emeritus, Colby College.	Asset Allocation Trust
Isaiah Harris, Jr. (Born 1952)	Trustee, since 2010	Retired. Chairman of the Board of CIGNA Corporation since 2009, and Director since 2005. From 2003 to 2011, Director of Deluxe Corporation. Prior thereto, President and CEO of BellSouth Advertising and Publishing Corp. from 2005 to 2007, President and CEO of BellSouth Enterprises from 2004 to 2005 and President of BellSouth Consumer Services from 2000 to 2003. Emeritus member of the Iowa State University Foundation Board of Governors. Emeritus Member of the Advisory Board of Iowa State University School of Business. Advisory Board Member, Palm Harbor Academy (charter school). Advisory Board Member, Child Evangelism Fellowship (non-profit). Mr. Harris is a certified public accountant (inactive status).	CIGNA Corporation; Asset Allocation Trust
Judith M. Johnson (Born 1949)	Trustee, since 2010; Audit Committee Chairman, since 2010	Retired. Prior thereto, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer of Minneapolis Employees Retirement Fund from 1996 to 2008. Ms. Johnson is an attorney, certified public accountant and a certified managerial accountant.	Asset Allocation Trust
David F. Larcker (Born 1950)	Trustee, since 2010	James Irvin Miller Professor of Accounting at the Graduate School of Business, Stanford University, Director of the Corporate Governance Research Initiative and Senior Faculty of The Rock Center for Corporate Governance since 2006. From 2005 to 2008, Professor of Accounting at the Graduate School of Business, Stanford University. Prior thereto, Ernst & Young Professor of Accounting at The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania from 1985 to 2005.	Asset Allocation Trust



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Other information (unaudited)			Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 29
Name and year of birth	Position held and length of service	Principal occupations during past five years or longer	Current other public company or investment company directorships
Olivia S. Mitchell (Born 1953)	Trustee, since 2010	International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans Professor, Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania since 1993. Director of Wharton's Pension Research Council and Boettner Center on Pensions & Retirement Research, and Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research. Previously, Cornell University Professor from 1978 to 1993.	Asset Allocation Trust
Timothy J. Penny (Born 1951)	Trustee, since 2010	President and Chief Executive Officer of Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, a non-profit organization, since 2007 and Senior Fellow at the Humphrey Institute Policy Forum at the University of Minnesota since 1995. Member of the Board of Trustees of NorthStar Education Finance, Inc., a non-profit organization, since 2007.	Asset Allocation Trust
Michael S. Scofield (Born 1943)	Trustee, since 2004	Served on the Investment Company Institute's Board of Governors and Executive Committee from 2008-2011 as well the Governing Council of the Independent Directors Council from 2006-2011 and the Independent Directors Council Executive Committee from 2008-2011. Chairman of the IDC from 2008-2010. Institutional Investor (Fund Directions) Trustee of Year in 2007. Trustee of the Evergreen Funds complex (and its predecessors) from 1984 to 2010. Chairman of the Evergreen Funds from 2000-2010. Former Trustee of the Mentor Funds. Retired Attorney, Law Offices of Michael S. Scofield.	Asset Allocation Trust

**Officers**

Name and year of birth	Position held and length of service	Principal occupations during past five years or longer
Karla M. Rabusch (Born 1959)	President, since 2010	Executive Vice President of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and President of Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC since 2003.
Nancy Wiser <sup>1</sup> (Born 1967)	Treasurer, since 2012	Executive Vice President of Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC since 2011. Chief Operating Officer and Chief Compliance Officer at LightBox Capital Management LLC, from 2008 to 2011.
C. David Messman		

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(Born 1960)	Secretary, since 2010; Chief Legal Officer, since 2010	Senior Vice President and Secretary of Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC since 2001. Assistant General Counsel of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. since 2013 and Vice President and Managing Counsel of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. from 1996 to 2013.
Michael Whitaker (Born 1967)	Chief Compliance Officer, since 2016*	Executive Vice President of Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC since 2016. Chief Compliance Officer of Fidelity's Fixed Income Funds and Asset Allocation Funds from 2008 to 2016, Compliance Officer of FMR Co., Inc. from 2014 to 2016, Fidelity Investments Money Management, Inc. from 2014 to 2016, Fidelity Investments from 2007 to 2016.
David Berardi (Born 1975)	Assistant Treasurer, since 2009	Vice President of Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC since 2009. Vice President of Evergreen Investment Management Company, LLC from 2008 to 2010. Manager of Fund Reporting and Control for Evergreen Investment Management Company, LLC from 2004 to 2010.
Jeremy DePalma <sup>1</sup> (Born 1974)	Assistant Treasurer, since 2005	Senior Vice President of Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC since 2009. Senior Vice President of Evergreen Investment Management Company, LLC from 2008 to 2010 and head of the Fund Reporting and Control Team within Fund Administration from 2005 to 2010.

<sup>1</sup>Nancy Wisner acts as Treasurer of 71 funds in the Fund Complex. Jeremy DePalma acts as Treasurer of 68 funds and Assistant Treasurer of 71 funds in the Fund Complex.

\*Michael Whitaker became Chief Compliance Officer effective May 16, 2016.

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<b>BOARD CONSIDERATION OF INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND SUB-ADVISORY AGREEMENTS:</b>	

Under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the 1940 Act ), the Board of Trustees (the Board ) of Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund (the Fund ) must determine whether to approve the continuation of the Fund s investment advisory and sub-advisory agreements. In this regard, at an in-person meeting held on May 24-25, 2016 (the Meeting ), the Board, all the members of which have no direct or indirect interest in the investment advisory and sub-advisory agreements and are not interested persons of the Fund, as defined in the 1940 Act (the Independent Trustees ), reviewed and approved: (i) an investment advisory agreement with Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC ( Funds Management ), (ii) an investment sub-advisory agreement with Wells Capital Management Incorporated ( WellsCap ), an affiliate of Funds Management; and (iii) an investment sub-advisory agreement with Crow Point Partners, LLC ( Crow Point ). The investment advisory agreement with Funds Management and the investment sub-advisory agreements with WellsCap and Crow Point (each, a Sub-Adviser and together, the Sub-Advisers ) are collectively referred to as the Advisory Agreements.

At the Meeting, the Board considered the factors and reached the conclusions described below relating to the selection of Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers and the continuation of the Advisory Agreements. Prior to the Meeting, including at an in-person meeting in April 2016, the Trustees conferred extensively among themselves and with representatives of Funds Management about these matters. Also, the Board has adopted a team-based approach, with each team consisting of a sub-set of Trustees, to assist the full Board in the discharge of its duties in reviewing performance and other matters throughout the year. The Independent Trustees were assisted in their evaluation of the Advisory Agreements by independent legal counsel, from whom they received separate legal advice and with whom they met separately.

In providing information to the Board, Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers were guided by a detailed set of requests for information submitted to them by independent legal counsel on behalf of the Independent Trustees at the start of the Board s annual contract renewal process earlier in 2016. In considering and approving the Advisory Agreements, the Trustees considered the information they believed relevant, including but not limited to the information discussed below. The Board considered not only the specific information presented in connection with the Meeting, but also the knowledge gained over time through interaction with Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers about various topics. In this regard, the Board reviewed reports of Funds Management at each of its quarterly meetings, which included, among other things, portfolio reviews and performance reports. In addition, the Board and the teams mentioned above confer with portfolio managers at various times throughout the year. The Board did not identify any particular information or consideration that was all-important or controlling, and each individual Trustee may have attributed different weights to various factors.

After its deliberations, the Board unanimously approved the continuation of the Advisory Agreements and determined that the compensation payable to Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers is reasonable. The Board considered the continuation of the Advisory Agreements for the Fund as part of its consideration of agreements for funds across the complex, but its approvals were made on a fund-by-fund basis. The following summarizes a number of important, but not necessarily all, factors considered by the Board in support of its approvals.

**Nature, extent and quality of services**

The Board received and considered various information regarding the nature, extent and quality of services provided to the Fund by Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers under the Advisory Agreements. This information included,

among other things, a summary of the background and experience of senior management of Funds Management, and the qualifications, background, tenure and responsibilities of each of the portfolio managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund.

The Board evaluated the ability of Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers to attract and retain qualified investment professionals, including research, advisory and supervisory personnel. The Board further considered the compliance programs and compliance records of Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers. In addition, the Board took into account the full range of services provided to the Fund by Funds Management and its affiliates.

#### **Fund performance and expenses**

The Board considered the performance results for the Fund over various time periods ended December 31, 2015. The Board considered these results in comparison to the performance of funds in a custom peer group that included funds selected by Broadridge Inc. ( Broadridge ) and additional funds that were determined by Funds Management to be similar to the Fund (the Custom Peer Group ), and in comparison to the Fund's benchmark index and to other comparative data. The Board received a description of the methodology used by Broadridge and Funds Management to

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Other information (unaudited) Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 31  
select the funds in the Custom Peer Group and discussed the limitations inherent in the use of other peer groups. The Board noted that the performance of the Fund was higher than or in range of the average performance of the Custom Peer Group for all periods under review except the five- and ten-year period. The Board also noted that the performance of the Fund was higher than or in range of its benchmark, the ERH Blended Index, which is a proprietary index used by the Board to help it assess the Fund's relative performance, for all periods under review except the five- and ten-year period.

The Board also received and considered information regarding the Fund's net operating expense ratio and its various components, including actual management fees, and custodian and other non-management fees. The Board considered this ratio in comparison to the median ratio of funds in an expense group that was determined by Broadridge to be similar to the Fund (the Group). Broadridge is an independent provider of investment company data. The Board received a description of the methodology used by Broadridge to select the funds in the expense Group and an explanation of how funds comprising expense groups and their expense ratios may vary from year-to-year. Based on the Broadridge reports, the Board noted that the net operating expense ratio of the Fund was lower than the median net operating expense ratio of the expense Group.

The Board took into account the Fund performance and expense information provided to it among the factors considered in deciding to re-approve the Advisory Agreements.

### **Investment advisory and sub-advisory fee rates**

The Board reviewed and considered the contractual investment advisory fee rate that is payable by the Fund to Funds Management for investment advisory services (the Advisory Agreement Rate), both on a stand-alone basis and on a combined basis with the Fund's contractual administration fee rate (the Management Rate). The Board also reviewed and considered the contractual investment sub-advisory fee rates that are payable by Funds Management to each of the Sub-Advisers for investment sub-advisory services (the Sub-Advisory Agreement Rate).

Among other information reviewed by the Board was a comparison of the Management Rate of the Fund with those of other funds in the expense Group at a common asset level. The Board noted that the Management Rate of the Fund was lower than the average rate for the Fund's expense Group.

The Board also received and considered information about the portion of the total advisory fee that was retained by Funds Management after payment of the fee to the Sub-Advisers for sub-advisory services. In assessing the reasonableness of this amount, the Board received and evaluated information about the nature and extent of responsibilities retained and risks assumed by Funds Management and not delegated to or assumed by the Sub-Advisers, and about Funds Management's on-going oversight services. However, given the affiliation between Funds Management and WellsCap, the Board ascribed limited relevance to the allocation of the advisory fee between them. The Board also considered that the sub-advisory fees paid to Crow Point had been negotiated by Funds Management on an arm's-length basis.

Based on its consideration of the factors and information it deemed relevant, including those described here, the Board determined that the Advisory Agreement Rate and each Sub-Advisory Agreement Rate was reasonable, in light of the services covered by the Advisory Agreements.

### **Profitability**

The Board received and considered information concerning the profitability of Funds Management, as well as the profitability of Wells Fargo as a whole, from providing services to the Fund and the fund family as a whole. The Board also received and considered information concerning the profitability of WellsCap from providing services to the fund family as a whole, noting that WellsCap's profitability information with respect to providing services to the Fund was subsumed in the Wells Fargo and Funds Management profitability analysis. The Board did not consider profitability with respect to Crow Point, as the sub-advisory fees paid to Crow Point had been negotiated by Funds Management on an arm's-length basis.

Funds Management reported on the methodologies and estimates used in calculating profitability. Among other things, the Board noted that the levels of profitability reported on a fund-by-fund basis varied widely, depending on factors such as the size and type of fund. Based on its review, the Board did not deem the profits reported by Funds Management or Wells Fargo from its services to the Fund to be at a level that would prevent it from approving the continuation of the Advisory Agreements.

### **Economies of scale**

The Board considered the extent to which there may be sharing with the Fund of potential economies of scale in the provision of advisory services to the Fund. The Board noted that, as is typical of closed-end funds, there are no breakpoints in the Management Rate. Although the Fund would not share in any potential economies of scale through

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32 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund Other information (unaudited)  
contractual breakpoints, the Board noted that fee waiver and expense reimbursement arrangements and competitive fee rates at the outset are means of sharing potential economies of scale with shareholders of the Fund and the fund family as a whole. The Board concluded that the Fund's fee waiver and expense arrangements constituted a reasonable approach to sharing potential economies of scale with the Fund and its shareholders. The Board also noted that it would have opportunities to revisit the Management Rate as part of future contract reviews.

**Other benefits to Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers**

The Board received and considered information regarding potential "fall-out" or ancillary benefits received by Funds Management and its affiliates, including WellsCap, and Crow Point as a result of their relationships with the Fund. Ancillary benefits could include, among others, benefits directly attributable to other relationships with the Fund and benefits potentially derived from an increase in Funds Management's and the Sub-Advisers' business as a result of their relationships with the Fund. The Board also reviewed information about soft dollar credits earned and utilized by the Sub-Advisers and commissions earned by affiliated brokers from portfolio transactions.

Based on its consideration of the factors and information it deemed relevant, including those described here, the Board did not find that any ancillary benefits received by Funds Management and its affiliates, including WellsCap, or Crow Point were unreasonable.

**Conclusion**

At the Meeting, after considering the above-described factors and based on its deliberations and its evaluation of the information described above, the Board unanimously approved the continuation of the Advisory Agreements for an additional one-year period and determined that the compensation payable to Funds Management and the Sub-Advisers is reasonable.

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Automatic dividend reinvestment plan

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 33

**AUTOMATIC DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN**

All common shareholders are eligible to participate in the Automatic Dividend Reinvestment Plan ( the Plan ). Pursuant to the Plan, unless a common shareholder is ineligible or elects otherwise, all cash dividends and capital gains distributions are automatically reinvested by Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as agent for shareholders in administering the Plan ( Plan Agent ), in additional common shares of the Fund. Whenever the Fund declares an ordinary income dividend or a capital gain dividend (collectively referred to as dividends ) payable either in shares or in cash, nonparticipants in the Plan will receive cash, and participants in the Plan will receive the equivalent in common shares. The shares are acquired by the Plan Agent for the participant s account, depending upon the circumstances described below, either (i) through receipt of additional unissued but authorized common shares from the Fund ( newly issued common shares ) or (ii) by purchase of outstanding common shares on the open-market (open-market purchases) on the NYSE Amex or elsewhere. If, on the payment date for any dividend or distribution, the net asset value per share of the common shares is equal to or less than the market price per common share plus estimated brokerage commissions ( market premium ), the Plan Agent will invest the amount of such dividend or distribution in newly issued shares on behalf of the participant. The number of newly issued common shares to be credited to the participant s account will be determined by dividing the dollar amount of the dividend by the net asset value per share on the date the shares are issued, provided that the maximum discount from the then current market price per share on the date of issuance may not exceed 5%. If on the dividend payment date the net asset value per share is greater than the market value ( market discount ), the Plan Agent will invest the dividend amount in shares acquired on behalf of the participant in open-market purchases. There will be no brokerage charges with respect to shares issued directly by the Fund as a result of dividends or capital gains distributions payable either in shares or in cash. However, each participant will pay a pro rata share of brokerage commissions incurred with respect to the Plan Agent s open-market purchases in connection with the reinvestment of dividends. The automatic reinvestment of dividends and distributions will not relieve participants of any federal, state or local income tax that may be payable (or required to be withheld) on such dividends. All correspondence concerning the Plan should be directed to the Plan Agent at P.O. Box 30170, College Station, Texas 77842-3170 or by calling 1-800-730-6001.



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List of abbreviations

The following is a list of common abbreviations for terms and entities that may have appeared in this report.

ACA	ACA Financial Guaranty Corporation
ADR	American depositary receipt
ADS	American depositary shares
AGC	Assured Guaranty Corporation
AGM	Assured Guaranty Municipal
Ambac	Ambac Financial Group Incorporated
AMT	Alternative minimum tax
AUD	Australian dollar
BAN	Bond anticipation notes
BHAC	Berkshire Hathaway Assurance Corporation
BRL	Brazilian real
CAB	Capital appreciation bond
CAD	Canadian dollar
CCAB	Convertible capital appreciation bond
CDA	Community Development Authority
CDO	Collateralized debt obligation
CHF	Swiss franc
COP	Colombian peso
CLP	Chilean peso
DKK	Danish krone
DRIVER	Derivative inverse tax-exempt receipts
DW&P	Department of Water & Power
DWR	Department of Water Resources
ECFA	Educational & Cultural Facilities Authority
EDA	Economic Development Authority
EDFA	Economic Development Finance Authority
ETF	Exchange-traded fund
EUR	Euro
FDIC	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
FFCB	Federal Farm Credit Banks
FGIC	Financial Guaranty Insurance Corporation
FHA	Federal Housing Administration
FHLB	Federal Home Loan Bank
FHLMC	Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation
FICO	The Financing Corporation
FNMA	Federal National Mortgage Association
FSA	Farm Service Agency
GBP	Great British pound
GDR	Global depositary receipt
GNMA	Government National Mortgage Association
GO	General obligation

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HCFR	Healthcare facilities revenue
HEFA	Health & Educational Facilities Authority
HEFAR	Higher education facilities authority revenue
HFA	Housing Finance Authority
HFFA	Health Facilities Financing Authority
HKD	Hong Kong dollar
HUD	Department of Housing and Urban Development
HUF	Hungarian forint
IDA	Industrial Development Authority
IDAG	Industrial Development Agency
IDR	Indonesian rupiah
IEP	Irish pound
JPY	Japanese yen
KRW	Republic of Korea won
LIBOR	London Interbank Offered Rate
LIFER	Long Inverse Floating Exempt Receipts
LIQ	Liquidity agreement
LLC	Limited liability company
LLLP	Limited liability limited partnership
LLP	Limited liability partnership
LOC	Letter of credit
LP	Limited partnership
MBIA	Municipal Bond Insurance Association
MFHR	Multifamily housing revenue
MSTR	Municipal securities trust receipts
MTN	Medium-term note
MUD	Municipal Utility District
MXN	Mexican peso
MYR	Malaysian ringgit
National	National Public Finance Guarantee Corporation
NGN	Nigerian naira
NOK	Norwegian krone
NZD	New Zealand dollar
PCFA	Pollution Control Financing Authority
PCL	Public Company Limited
PCR	Pollution control revenue
PFA	Public Finance Authority
PFFA	Public Facilities Financing Authority
PFOTER	Puttable floating option tax-exempt receipts
plc	Public limited company
PLN	Polish zloty
PUTTER	Puttable tax-exempt receipts
R&D	Research & development
Radian	Radian Asset Assurance
RAN	Revenue anticipation notes
RDA	Redevelopment Authority
RDFA	Redevelopment Finance Authority
REIT	Real estate investment trust
ROC	Reset option certificates
RON	Romanian lei
RUB	Russian ruble

SAVRS	Select auction variable rate securities
SBA	Small Business Authority
SDR	Swedish depositary receipt
SEK	Swedish krona
SFHR	Single-family housing revenue
SFMR	Single-family mortgage revenue
SGD	Singapore dollar
SPA	Standby purchase agreement
SPDR	Standard & Poor's Depositary Receipts
SPEAR	Short Puttable Exempt Adjustable Receipts
STRIPS	Separate trading of registered interest and principal securities
TAN	Tax anticipation notes
TBA	To be announced
THB	Thai baht
TIPS	Treasury inflation-protected securities
TRAN	Tax revenue anticipation notes
TRY	Turkish lira
TTFA	Transportation Trust Fund Authority
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority
ZAR	South African rand

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Transfer Agent, Registrar, Shareholder Servicing

Agent & Dividend Disbursing Agent

Computershare Trust Company, N.A.

P.O. Box 30170

College Station, TX 77842-3170

1-800-730-6001

Website: wellsfargofunds.com

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**Table of Contents****ITEM 2. CODE OF ETHICS**

(a) As of the end of the period covered by the report, Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund has adopted a code of ethics that applies to its President and Treasurer. A copy of the code of ethics is filed as an exhibit to this Form N-CSR.

(c) During the period covered by this report, there were no amendments to the provisions of the code of ethics adopted in Item 2(a) above.

(d) During the period covered by this report, there were no implicit or explicit waivers to the provisions of the code of ethics adopted in Item 2(a) above.

**ITEM 3. AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT**

The Board of Trustees of Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund has determined that Judith Johnson is an audit committee financial expert, as defined in Item 3 of Form N-CSR. Mrs. Johnson is independent for purposes of Item 3 of Form N-CSR.

**ITEM 4. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES**

(a), (b), (c), (d) The following table presents aggregate fees billed in each of the last two fiscal years for services rendered to the Registrant by the Registrant's principal accountant. These fees were billed to the registrant and were approved by the Registrant's audit committee.

	<b>Fiscal year ended August 31, 2016</b>	<b>Fiscal year ended August 31, 2015</b>
Audit fees	\$ 51,154	\$ 49,900
Audit-related fees		
Tax fees <sup>(1)</sup>	3,945	4,030
All other fees		
	<b>\$ 55,099</b>	<b>\$ 53,930</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Tax fees consist of fees for tax compliance, tax advice, tax planning and excise tax.

(e) The Chairman of the Audit Committees is authorized to pre-approve: (1) audit services for the Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund; (2) non-audit tax or compliance consulting or training services provided to the Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund by the independent auditors ( Auditors ) if the fees for any particular engagement are not anticipated to exceed \$50,000; and (3) non-audit tax or compliance consulting or training services provided by the Auditors to Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund's investment adviser and its controlling entities (where pre-approval is required because the engagement relates directly to the operations and financial reporting of the Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund) if the fee to the Auditors for any particular engagement is not anticipated to exceed \$50,000. For any such pre-approval sought from the Chairman, Management shall prepare a brief description

of the proposed services. If the Chairman approves of such service, he or she shall sign the statement prepared by Management. Such written statement shall be presented to the full Committees at their next regularly scheduled meetings.

(f) Not applicable

(g) Not applicable

(h) Not applicable



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**ITEM 5. AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 6. INVESTMENTS**

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund included a Summary Portfolio of Investments under Item 1. A Portfolio of Investments for Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund is filed under this Item.

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Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 1

Security name	Shares	Value
<b>Common Stocks: 66.82%</b>		
<b>Energy: 2.30%</b>		
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels: 2.30%</b>		
<i>Spectra Energy Corporation</i>	75,000	\$ 2,671,500
<i>Swift Energy Company (i)</i>	1,214	33,385
		2,704,885
<b>Telecommunication Services: 11.81%</b>		
<b>Diversified Telecommunication Services: 9.85%</b>		
<i>CenturyLink Incorporated #</i>	75,000	2,085,000
<i>Chunghwa Telecom Company Limited ADR</i>	120,000	4,302,000
<i>Orange SA</i>	200,000	3,054,103
<i>Verizon Communications Incorporated</i>	41,291	2,160,758
		11,601,861
<b>Wireless Telecommunication Services: 1.96%</b>		
<i>Shenandoah Telecommunications Company</i>	90,000	2,314,800
<b>Utilities: 52.71%</b>		
<b>Electric Utilities: 39.91%</b>		
<i>Alliant Energy Corporation</i>	8,000	303,600
<i>American Electric Power Company Incorporated</i>	70,000	4,519,900
<i>Chesapeake Utilities Corporation</i>	300	19,095
<i>Duke Energy Corporation</i>	30,514	2,430,745
<i>Edison International</i>	60,000	4,363,200
<i>Endesa SA</i>	180,000	3,666,262
<i>Enel SpA</i>	1,225,000	5,408,316
<i>Energy Corporation</i>	1,000	78,200
<i>Eversource Energy</i>	90,000	4,857,300
<i>Exelon Corporation</i>	16,000	544,000
<i>Great Plains Energy Incorporated</i>	100,000	2,716,000
<i>IDACORP Incorporated</i>	25,000	1,901,750
<i>NextEra Energy Incorporated</i>	35,000	4,232,900

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<i>PNM Resources Incorporated</i>	75,000	2,384,250
<i>Red Electrica Corporacion SA</i>	240,000	5,168,104
<i>Spark Energy Incorporated Class A</i>	36,700	1,063,933
<i>Terna SpA</i>	650,000	3,358,398
		47,015,953

**Gas Utilities: 4.39%**

<i>Enagas SA</i>	175,000	5,138,740
<i>New Jersey Resources Corporation</i>	400	13,456
<i>South Jersey Industries Incorporated</i>	400	11,872
		5,164,068

**Multi-Utilities: 5.27%**

<i>CenterPoint Energy Incorporated</i>	50,000	1,123,500
<i>Dominion Resources Incorporated</i>	300	22,248
<i>Hera SpA</i>	300,000	831,234

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2 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Security name	Shares	Value
<b>Multi-Utilities (continued)</b>		
<i>MDU Resources Group Incorporated</i>	500	\$ 11,785
<i>Public Service Enterprise Group Incorporated</i>	50,000	2,138,000
<i>Sempra Energy</i>	19,900	2,082,137
		6,208,904
<b>Water Utilities: 3.14%</b>		
<i>American Water Works Company Incorporated</i>	50,000	3,699,500
<b>Total Common Stocks (Cost \$60,295,682)</b>		78,709,971

	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	
<b>Corporate Bonds and Notes: 30.77%</b>				
<b>Consumer Discretionary: 5.94%</b>				
<b>Auto Components: 0.20%</b>				
<i>Cooper Tire &amp; Rubber Company (i)</i>	7.63%	3-15-2027	\$ 190,000	208,525
<i>Goodyear Tire &amp; Rubber Company</i>	7.00	5-15-2022	25,000	26,625
				235,150
<b>Distributors: 0.09%</b>				
<i>LKQ Corporation</i>	4.75	5-15-2023	100,000	101,000
<b>Diversified Consumer Services: 0.41%</b>				
<i>Service Corporation International</i>	7.50	4-1-2027	351,000	410,670
<i>Service Corporation International</i>	7.63	10-1-2018	25,000	27,970
<i>Service Corporation International</i>	8.00	11-15-2021	40,000	47,300
				485,940
<b>Hotels, Restaurants &amp; Leisure: 1.12%</b>				
<i>CCM Merger Incorporated 144A</i>	9.13	5-1-2019	465,000	487,669
<i>Greektown Holdings LLC 144A</i>	8.88	3-15-2019	675,000	712,125

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<i>Hilton Worldwide Finance LLC</i>	5.63	10-15-2021	15,000	15,516
<i>Speedway Motorsports Incorporated</i>	5.13	2-1-2023	100,000	103,250
				1,318,560
<b>Household Durables: 0.21%</b>				
<i>American Greetings Corporation</i>	7.38	12-1-2021	150,000	156,563
<i>Tempur Sealy International Incorporated 144A</i>	5.50	6-15-2026	75,000	78,338
<i>Tempur Sealy International Incorporated</i>	5.63	10-15-2023	10,000	10,500
				245,401
<b>Leisure Products: 0.04%</b>				
<i>Vista Outdoor Incorporated 144A</i>	5.88	10-1-2023	40,000	42,100
<b>Media: 2.94%</b>				
<i>Altice US Finance I Corporation 144A</i>	5.38	7-15-2023	200,000	209,250
<i>Altice US Finance I Corporation 144A</i>	5.50	5-15-2026	100,000	105,176
<i>Cablevision Systems Corporation</i>	8.63	9-15-2017	145,000	154,099

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Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 3

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value
<b>Media (continued)</b>				
<i>CCO Holdings LLC</i>	5.13%	2-15-2023	\$ 50,000	\$ 52,500
<i>CCO Holdings LLC 144A</i>	5.13	5-1-2023	135,000	142,046
<i>CCO Holdings LLC</i>	5.25	9-30-2022	90,000	94,500
<i>CCO Holdings LLC 144A</i>	5.38	5-1-2025	335,000	353,006
<i>CCO Holdings LLC 144A</i>	5.50	5-1-2026	5,000	5,294
<i>CCO Holdings LLC 144A</i>	5.75	2-15-2026	275,000	294,250
<i>CCO Holdings LLC 144A</i>	5.88	4-1-2024	125,000	134,688
<i>CCO Holdings LLC</i>	6.63	1-31-2022	50,000	52,625
<i>Cequel Communications Holdings I LLC 144A</i>	7.75	7-15-2025	100,000	109,250
<i>CSC Holdings LLC</i>	7.88	2-15-2018	75,000	81,000
<i>CSC Holdings LLC</i>	8.63	2-15-2019	125,000	140,000
<i>EMI Music Publishing 144A</i>	7.63	6-15-2024	50,000	54,500
<i>Gray Television Incorporated 144A</i>	5.88	7-15-2026	75,000	78,188
<i>Gray Television Incorporated</i>	7.50	10-1-2020	375,000	390,000
<i>Lamar Media Corporation</i>	5.88	2-1-2022	75,000	78,750
<i>LIN Television Corporation</i>	6.38	1-15-2021	25,000	26,125
<i>Live Nation Entertainment Incorporated 144A</i>	7.00	9-1-2020	50,000	51,938
<i>National CineMedia LLC 144A</i>	5.75	8-15-2026	100,000	102,625
<i>National CineMedia LLC</i>	6.00	4-15-2022	225,000	235,125
<i>National CineMedia LLC</i>	7.88	7-15-2021	100,000	104,000
<i>Nexstar Broadcasting Group Incorporated 144A</i>	5.63	8-1-2024	25,000	25,500
<i>Nexstar Broadcasting Group Incorporated 144A</i>	6.13	2-15-2022	150,000	155,250
<i>Nexstar Broadcasting Group Incorporated</i>	6.88	11-15-2020	145,000	151,163
<i>Outfront Media Capital Corporation</i>	5.25	2-15-2022	15,000	15,713
<i>Outfront Media Capital Corporation</i>	5.88	3-15-2025	65,000	69,550
				3,466,111
<b>Specialty Retail: 0.85%</b>				
<i>ABC Supply Company Incorporated 144A</i>	5.63	4-15-2021	40,000	41,500
<i>ABC Supply Company Incorporated 144A</i>	5.75	12-15-2023	50,000	52,875
<i>Asbury Automotive Group Incorporated</i>	6.00	12-15-2024	175,000	182,000
	9.75	2-15-2019	15,000	15,338

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*Century Intermediate Holding Company (PIK  
at 10.50%) 144A*

<i>Penske Auto Group Incorporated</i>	5.38	12-1-2024	300,000	305,250
<i>Penske Auto Group Incorporated</i>	5.50	5-15-2026	25,000	25,016
<i>Penske Auto Group Incorporated</i>	5.75	10-1-2022	99,000	102,713
<i>Sonic Automotive Incorporated</i>	5.00	5-15-2023	70,000	69,650
<i>Sonic Automotive Incorporated</i>	7.00	7-15-2022	200,000	211,500
				1,005,842

**Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods: 0.08%**

<i>Wolverine World Wide Company 144A</i>	5.00	9-1-2026	50,000	50,063
<i>Wolverine World Wide Company</i>	6.13	10-15-2020	45,000	46,463
				96,526

**Consumer Staples: 0.50%**

**Beverages: 0.10%**

<i>Cott Beverages Incorporated</i>	5.38	7-1-2022	50,000	51,625
<i>Cott Beverages Incorporated</i>	6.75	1-1-2020	60,000	62,850
				114,475

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4 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value
<b>Food Products: 0.38%</b>				
<i>B&amp;G Foods Incorporated</i>	4.63%	6-1-2021	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,938
<i>Darling Ingredients Incorporated</i>	5.38	1-15-2022	15,000	15,750
<i>Pilgrim s Pride Corporation 144A</i>	5.75	3-15-2025	85,000	87,763
<i>Pinnacle Foods Incorporated 144A</i>	5.63	5-1-2024	25,000	25,500
<i>Post Holdings Incorporated 144A</i>	5.00	8-15-2026	75,000	74,813
<i>Prestige Brands Incorporated 144A</i>	6.38	3-1-2024	10,000	10,675
<i>Simmons Foods Incorporated 144A</i>	7.88	10-1-2021	175,000	172,813
<i>US Foods Incorporated 144A</i>	5.88	6-15-2024	30,000	31,425
				449,677
<b>Household Products: 0.02%</b>				
<i>Central Garden &amp; Pet Company</i>	6.13	11-15-2023	20,000	21,475
<b>Energy: 7.43%</b>				
<b>Energy Equipment &amp; Services: 2.42%</b>				
<i>Bristow Group Incorporated</i>	6.25	10-15-2022	400,000	289,000
<i>Cleaver Brooks Incorporated 144A</i>	8.75	12-15-2019	40,000	41,850
<i>Era Group Incorporated</i>	7.75	12-15-2022	219,000	184,508
<i>Hilcorp Energy Company 144A</i>	5.00	12-1-2024	100,000	97,000
<i>Hilcorp Energy Company 144A</i>	5.75	10-1-2025	100,000	98,000
<i>Hilcorp Energy Company 144A</i>	7.63	4-15-2021	25,000	25,688
<i>Holly Energy Partners LP 144A</i>	6.00	8-1-2024	50,000	51,000
<i>Hornbeck Offshore Services Incorporated</i>	1.50	9-1-2019	175,000	91,547
<i>Hornbeck Offshore Services Incorporated</i>	5.00	3-1-2021	325,000	186,063
<i>Hornbeck Offshore Services Incorporated</i>	5.88	4-1-2020	235,000	143,350
<i>NGPL PipeCo LLC 144A</i>	7.12	12-15-2017	190,000	197,838
<i>NGPL PipeCo LLC 144A</i>	7.77	12-15-2037	950,000	1,016,500
<i>NGPL PipeCo LLC 144A</i>	9.63	6-1-2019	35,000	36,575
<i>PHI Incorporated</i>	5.25	3-15-2019	405,000	385,763
				2,844,682
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels: 5.01%</b>				
<i>Continental Resources Incorporated</i>	5.00	9-15-2022	100,000	96,750



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<i>Crestwood Midstream Partners LP</i>	6.25	4-1-2023	100,000	97,500
<i>Denbury Resources Incorporated</i>	4.63	7-15-2023	375,000	241,875
<i>Denbury Resources Incorporated</i>	5.50	5-1-2022	30,000	20,550
<i>Denbury Resources Incorporated</i>	6.38	8-15-2021	160,000	117,200
<i>El Paso Pipeline Partners Operating LLC</i>	5.00	10-1-2021	125,000	135,786
<i>Enable Midstream Partner LP</i>	2.40	5-15-2019	275,000	268,644
<i>Enable Midstream Partner LP</i>	3.90	5-15-2024	150,000	141,137
<i>Enable Midstream Partner LP</i>	5.00	5-15-2044	25,000	21,195
<i>Enable Oklahoma Intrastate Transmission LLC 144A</i>	6.25	3-15-2020	50,000	53,159
<i>Enlink Midstream LLC</i>	4.15	6-1-2025	225,000	213,050
<i>Enlink Midstream LLC</i>	4.40	4-1-2024	250,000	242,995
<i>Exterran Partners LP</i>	6.00	4-1-2021	200,000	187,500
<i>Kinder Morgan Incorporated</i>	5.55	6-1-2045	75,000	77,378
<i>Kinder Morgan Incorporated</i>	6.50	9-15-2020	45,000	50,281
<i>Kinder Morgan Incorporated</i>	7.00	6-15-2017	75,000	77,844
<i>Kinder Morgan Incorporated (i)</i>	7.42	2-15-2037	90,000	97,434

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Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 5

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value
<b>Oil, Gas &amp; Consumable Fuels (continued)</b>				
<i>Kinder Morgan Incorporated</i>	7.80%	8-1-2031	\$ 100,000	\$ 122,310
<i>Overseas Shipholding Group Incorporated</i>	8.13	3-30-2018	175,000	180,250
<i>Rockies Express Pipeline LLC 144A</i>	5.63	4-15-2020	325,000	340,031
<i>Rockies Express Pipeline LLC 144A</i>	6.88	4-15-2040	425,000	429,250
<i>Rockies Express Pipeline LLC 144A</i>	7.50	7-15-2038	205,000	212,175
<i>Rose Rock Midstream LP</i>	5.63	7-15-2022	100,000	92,000
<i>Rose Rock Midstream LP</i>	5.63	11-15-2023	75,000	68,250
<i>Sabine Oil &amp; Gas Corporation (i)(s)</i>	7.25	6-15-2019	50,000	125
<i>Sabine Oil &amp; Gas Corporation (i)(s)</i>	7.50	9-15-2020	260,000	650
<i>Sabine Pass Liquefaction LLC</i>	5.63	2-1-2021	125,000	131,250
<i>Sabine Pass Liquefaction LLC</i>	5.63	4-15-2023	165,000	173,663
<i>Sabine Pass Liquefaction LLC</i>	5.63	3-1-2025	50,000	52,875
<i>Sabine Pass Liquefaction LLC</i>	5.75	5-15-2024	50,000	53,125
<i>Sabine Pass Liquefaction LLC 144A</i>	5.88	6-30-2026	75,000	80,250
<i>Sabine Pass Liquefaction LLC</i>	6.25	3-15-2022	200,000	214,000
<i>Sabine Pass LNG LP</i>	6.50	11-1-2020	320,000	332,000
<i>Sabine Pass LNG LP</i>	7.50	11-30-2016	100,000	101,375
<i>SemGroup Corporation</i>	7.50	6-15-2021	250,000	251,250
<i>Southwestern Energy Company</i>	4.10	3-15-2022	75,000	68,250
<i>Suburban Propane Partners LP</i>	7.38	8-1-2021	26,000	27,040
<i>Swift Energy Company (a)(i)(s)</i>	7.13	6-1-2017	422,000	0
<i>Swift Energy Company (a)(i)(s)</i>	8.88	1-15-2020	75,000	0
<i>Tallgrass Energy Partners LP 144A%%</i>	5.50	9-15-2024	175,000	179,375
<i>Tesoro Logistics LP</i>	6.13	10-15-2021	25,000	26,188
<i>Tesoro Logistics LP</i>	6.38	5-1-2024	25,000	26,688
<i>Ultra Petroleum Corporation (s)144A</i>	5.75	12-15-2018	35,000	29,050
<i>Ultra Petroleum Corporation (s)144A</i>	6.13	10-1-2024	550,000	448,250
<i>Valvoline Incorporated 144A</i>	5.50	7-15-2024	25,000	26,238
<i>Western Gas Partners LP</i>	3.95	6-1-2025	25,000	24,582
<i>Western Gas Partners LP</i>	5.38	6-1-2021	25,000	27,152
<i>Western Gas Partners LP</i>	5.45	4-1-2044	50,000	49,200
				5,907,120

**Financials: 4.83%****Banks: 0.30%**

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<i>CIT Group Incorporated 144A</i>	5.50	2-15-2019	100,000	105,875
<i>CIT Group Incorporated 144A</i>	6.63	4-1-2018	231,000	246,131
				352,006
<b>Capital Markets: 0.27%</b>				
<i>Jefferies Finance LLC 144A</i>	6.88	4-15-2022	350,000	317,625
<b>Consumer Finance: 1.30%</b>				
<i>Ally Financial Incorporated</i>	8.00	12-31-2018	75,000	83,344
<i>Ally Financial Incorporated</i>	8.00	3-15-2020	203,000	233,450
<i>Ford Motor Credit Company LLC</i>	8.00	12-15-2016	25,000	25,485
<i>Navient Corporation</i>	8.00	3-25-2020	175,000	189,875
<i>SLM Corporation</i>	8.45	6-15-2018	125,000	136,250
<i>Springleaf Finance Corporation</i>	5.75	9-15-2016	50,000	50,000

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6 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value
<b>Consumer Finance (continued)</b>				
<i>Springleaf Finance Corporation</i>	6.00%	6-1-2020	\$ 175,000	\$ 181,125
<i>Springleaf Finance Corporation</i>	6.50	9-15-2017	50,000	52,000
<i>Springleaf Finance Corporation</i>	6.90	12-15-2017	243,000	256,365
<i>Springleaf Finance Corporation</i>	7.75	10-1-2021	125,000	131,250
<i>Springleaf Finance Corporation</i>	8.25	12-15-2020	25,000	27,313
<i>Springleaf Finance Corporation</i>	8.25	10-1-2023	150,000	157,500
				1,523,957
<b>Diversified Financial Services: 0.52%</b>				
<i>Denali Borrower LLC 144A</i>	5.63	10-15-2020	295,000	308,275
<i>Infinity Acquisition LLC 144A(i)</i>	7.25	8-1-2022	125,000	109,375
<i>NewStar Financial Incorporated</i>	7.25	5-1-2020	200,000	196,000
				613,650
<b>Insurance: 0.43%</b>				
<i>Hub Holdings LLC (PIK at 8.88%) 144A</i>	8.13	7-15-2019	175,000	170,625
<i>Hub International Limited 144A</i>	7.88	10-1-2021	325,000	332,313
				502,938
<b>Real Estate Management &amp; Development: 0.30%</b>				
<i>Onex Corporation 144A</i>	7.75	1-15-2021	350,000	357,000
<b>REITs: 1.71%</b>				
<i>Crown Castle International Corporation</i>	4.88	4-15-2022	35,000	39,052
<i>Crown Castle International Corporation</i>	5.25	1-15-2023	70,000	79,932
<i>DuPont Fabros Technology Incorporated LP</i>	5.63	6-15-2023	225,000	235,688
<i>DuPont Fabros Technology Incorporated LP</i>	5.88	9-15-2021	340,000	355,725
<i>Equinix Incorporated</i>	5.88	1-15-2026	25,000	27,234
<i>ESH Hospitality Incorporated 144A</i>	5.25	5-1-2025	275,000	274,915
<i>Iron Mountain Incorporated 144A</i>	4.38	6-1-2021	125,000	129,063
<i>Iron Mountain Incorporated 144A</i>	5.38	6-1-2026	100,000	102,000

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<i>Iron Mountain Incorporated 144A</i>	6.00	10-1-2020	20,000	21,250
<i>Iron Mountain Incorporated</i>	6.00	8-15-2023	267,000	285,023
<i>Sabra Health Care Incorporated</i>	5.38	6-1-2023	75,000	76,406
<i>Sabra Health Care Incorporated</i>	5.50	2-1-2021	105,000	110,250
<i>The Geo Group Incorporated</i>	5.13	4-1-2023	45,000	40,163
<i>The Geo Group Incorporated</i>	5.88	1-15-2022	135,000	127,575
<i>The Geo Group Incorporated</i>	5.88	10-15-2024	100,000	90,000
<i>The Geo Group Incorporated</i>	6.00	4-15-2026	25,000	22,406

2,016,682

**Health Care: 3.10%**

**Health Care Equipment & Supplies: 0.72%**

<i>Crimson Merger Sub Incorporated 144A</i>	6.63	5-15-2022	325,000	290,875
<i>Hill-Rom Holdings Incorporated 144A</i>	5.75	9-1-2023	25,000	26,250
<i>Hologic Incorporated 144A</i>	5.25	7-15-2022	90,000	95,738
<i>Kinetics Concepts Incorporated 144A</i>	7.88	2-15-2021	200,000	216,000
<i>Surgery Center Holdings Company 144A</i>	8.88	4-15-2021	200,000	213,500

842,363

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Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund 7

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value
<b>Health Care Providers &amp; Services: 1.84%</b>				
<i>Acadia Healthcare Company Incorporated</i>	6.50%	3-1-2024	\$ 20,000	\$ 21,025
<i>Centene Corporation</i>	5.75	6-1-2017	75,000	77,063
<i>Centene Corporation</i>	6.13	2-15-2024	50,000	54,500
<i>DaVita HealthCare Partners Incorporated</i>	5.00	5-1-2025	35,000	35,473
<i>DaVita HealthCare Partners Incorporated</i>	5.75	8-15-2022	170,000	178,288
<i>HCA Incorporated</i>	5.88	3-15-2022	25,000	27,500
<i>HCA Incorporated</i>	6.50	2-15-2020	325,000	358,735
<i>HealthSouth Corporation</i>	5.75	9-15-2025	75,000	78,469
<i>Mednax Incorporated 144A</i>	5.25	12-1-2023	50,000	52,625
<i>Molina Healthcare Incorporated 144A</i>	5.38	11-15-2022	25,000	25,750
<i>MPH Acquisition Holdings LLC 144A</i>	7.13	6-1-2024	75,000	80,625
<i>MPT Operating Partnership LP</i>	5.25	8-1-2026	100,000	106,250
<i>MPT Operating Partnership LP</i>	6.38	2-15-2022	125,000	131,094
<i>MPT Operating Partnership LP</i>	6.38	3-1-2024	10,000	10,975
<i>Select Medical Corporation</i>	6.38	6-1-2021	405,000	405,506
<i>Team Health Incorporated 144A</i>	7.25	12-15-2023	200,000	218,000
<i>Tenet Healthcare Corporation</i>	6.00	10-1-2020	50,000	52,875
<i>Vizient Incorporated 144A</i>	10.38	3-1-2024	225,000	255,375
				2,170,128
<b>Health Care Technology: 0.45%</b>				
<i>Change Healthcare Holdings Incorporated 144A</i>	6.00	2-15-2021	150,000	159,000
<i>Change Healthcare Holdings Incorporated</i>	11.00	12-31-2019	355,000	375,413
				534,413
<b>Pharmaceuticals: 0.09%</b>				
<i>Endo Finance LLC 144A</i>	5.38	1-15-2023	50,000	45,250
<i>Endo Finance LLC 144A</i>	5.75	1-15-2022	65,000	60,572
				105,822
<b>Industrials: 1.45%</b>				
<b>Airlines: 0.10%</b>				

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<i>Aviation Capital Group Corporation 144A</i>	6.75	4-6-2021	100,000	117,500
<b>Commercial Services &amp; Supplies: 0.44%</b>				
<i>Aramark Services Incorporated</i>	5.13	1-15-2024	10,000	10,369
<i>Covanta Holding Corporation</i>	5.88	3-1-2024	185,000	185,925
<i>Covanta Holding Corporation</i>	6.38	10-1-2022	195,000	202,800
<i>Covanta Holding Corporation</i>	7.25	12-1-2020	110,000	113,988
				513,082
<b>Construction &amp; Engineering: 0.20%</b>				
<i>AECOM</i>	5.75	10-15-2022	15,000	15,900
<i>AECOM</i>	5.88	10-15-2024	200,000	218,750
				234,650
<b>Professional Services: 0.01%</b>				
<i>Ascent Capital Group Incorporated</i>	4.00	7-15-2020	25,000	17,500

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8 Wells Fargo Utilities and High Income Fund

Portfolio of investments August 31, 2016

Security name	Interest rate	Maturity date	Principal	Value
<b>Trading Companies &amp; Distributors: 0.70%</b>				
<i>Ashtead Capital Incorporated 144A</i>	6.50%	7-15-2022	\$ 400,000	\$ 422,000
<i>H&amp;E Equipment Services Incorporated</i>	7.00	9-1-2022	350,000	369,250
<i>International Lease Finance Corporation 144A</i>	7.13	9-1-2018	35,000	38,503
				829,753
<b>Information Technology: 2.61%</b>				
<b>Communications Equipment: 0.09%</b>				
<i>CommScope Technologies Finance LLC 144A</i>	6.00	6-15-2025	100,000	106,125
<b>Electronic Equipment, Instruments &amp; Components: 0.70%</b>				
<i>Jabil Circuit Incorporated</i>	8.25	3-15-2018	620,000	674,250
<i>Zebra Technologies Corporation</i>	7.25	10-15-2022	135,000	146,475
				820,725
<b>Internet Software &amp; Services: 0.12%</b>				
<i>Infor Software Parent LLC</i>	6.50	5-15-2022	50,000	50,688
<i>Infor Software Parent LLC (PIK at 7.88%) 144A</i>	7.13	5-1-2021	75,000	70,313
<i>Zayo Group LLC</i>	6.38	5-15-2025	25,000	26,380
				147,381
<b>IT Services: 0.19%</b>				
<i>First Data Corporation 144A</i>	5.00	1-15-2024	40,000	40,700
<i>First Data Corporation 144A</i>	5.75	1-15-2024	20,000	20,475