



**John Hancock Hedged Equity & Income Fund**

**Notification of Sources of Distribution**

This notice provides shareholders of the John Hancock Hedged Equity & Income Fund (NYSE: HEQ) with important information concerning the distribution declared on September 3, 2013 and payable on September 30, 2013. No action is required on your part.

Distribution Period: September 2013

Distribution Amount Per Common Share: \$0.3230

The following table sets forth the estimated sources of the current distribution, payable September 30, 2013, and the cumulative distributions paid this fiscal year to date from the following sources: net investment income; net realized short term capital gains; net realized long term capital gains; and return of capital or other capital source. All amounts are expressed on a per common share basis and as a percentage of the distribution amount.

Source	Current Distribution (\$)	% Breakdown of the Current Distribution	Total Cumulative Distributions for the Fiscal Year to Date (\$) <sup>1</sup>	% Breakdown of the Total Cumulative Distributions for the Fiscal Year to Date <sup>1</sup>
Net Investment Income	0.0330	10%	0.1006	10%
Net Realized Short Term Capital Gains	0.0000	0%	0.0000	0%
Net Realized Long Term Capital Gains	0.2900	90%	0.3692	38%
Return of Capital or Other Capital Source	0.0000 <sup>2</sup>	0% <sup>2</sup>	0.4992 <sup>2</sup>	52% <sup>2</sup>
Total per common share	0.3230	100%	0.9690	100%

Average annual total return (in relation to NAV) for the period commencing on May 26, 2011 and ending on August 30, 2013 6.60%

Annualized current distribution rate expressed as a percentage of NAV as of August 30, 2013 6.87%

Cumulative total return (in relation to NAV) for the fiscal year through August 30, 2013 11.31%

Cumulative fiscal year to date distribution rate expressed as a percentage of NAV as of August 30, 2013 5.15%

You should not draw any conclusions about the Fund’s investment performance from the amount of this distribution or from the terms of the Fund’s managed distribution plan.

The Fund estimates that it has distributed more than its income and net realized capital gains; therefore, a portion of your distribution may be a return of capital. A return of capital may occur, for example, when some or all of the money that you invested in the Fund is paid back to you. A return of capital distribution does not necessarily reflect the Fund’s investment performance and should not be confused with “yield” or “income.”

The amounts and sources of distributions reported in this Notice are only estimates and are not being provided for tax reporting purposes. The actual amounts and sources of the amounts for tax reporting purposes will depend upon the

<sup>1</sup> The Fund’s current fiscal year began on January 1, 2013, and will end on December 31, 2013.

<sup>2</sup> On a tax basis, the estimated components of the current distribution and cumulative distribution would include an estimated return of capital of \$0.2907 (90%) and \$0.8721 (90%), respectively.

Fund's investment experience during the remainder of its fiscal year and may be subject to changes based on tax regulations. The Fund will send you a Form 1099-DIV for the calendar year that will tell you how to report these distributions for federal income tax purposes.

The Fund has declared the September 2013 distribution pursuant to the Fund's managed distribution plan in effect on the date of the declaration (the "Plan"). Under the Plan, the quarterly distributions equal to \$0.3230 per share, based upon an annual distribution rate of 7.25% of the Fund's net asset value ("NAV") of \$17.82 on July 31, 2012 (representing a quarterly distribution rate of 1.8125% of the Fund's July 31, 2012 NAV).

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact your financial professional or call the John Hancock Investments Closed-End Fund Information Line at 1-800-843-0090, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., Eastern Time.