

BLACKROCK PREFERRED INCOME STRATEGIES FUND, INC.

Form N-Q

September 28, 2009

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

FORM N-Q

**QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY**

Investment Company Act file number 811-21286

Name of Fund: BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc. (PSY)

Fund Address: 100 Bellevue Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19809

Name and address of agent for service: Anne F. Ackerley, Chief Executive Officer, BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc., 40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022.

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (800) 882-0052, Option 4

Date of fiscal year end: 10/31/2009

Date of reporting period: 07/31/2009

Item 1 Schedule of Investments

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

(Percentages shown are based on Net Assets)

Schedule of Investments July 31, 2009 (Unaudited)

| Preferred Securities | | Par | Value |
|--|--|----------|--------------|
| Industry | Capital Trusts | (000) | |
| Building Products - 0.6% | C8 Capital SPV Ltd., 6.64% (a)(b)(c) | \$ 3,915 | \$ 2,206,455 |
| Capital Markets - 4.4% | Ameriprise Financial, Inc., 7.52%, 6/01/66 (c) | 7,600 | 5,852,000 |
| | Lehman Brothers Holdings Capital Trust V, 3.64% (b)(c)(d)(e) | 6,400 | 640 |
| | State Street Capital Trust III, 8.25% (b)(c)(f) | 2,920 | 2,730,492 |
| | State Street Capital Trust IV, 1.63%, 6/01/67 (c) | 12,535 | 7,055,763 |
| | | | 15,638,895 |
| Commercial Banks - 12.7% | ABN AMRO North America Holding Preferred Capital Repackaging Trust I, 6.52% (a)(b)(c) | 12,035 | 7,361,665 |
| | Bank One Capital III, 8.75%, 9/01/30 | 2,000 | 1,908,082 |
| | Bank of Ireland Capital Funding II, LP, 5.57% (a)(b)(c) | 1,715 | 634,550 |
| | Bank of Ireland Capital Funding III, LP, 6.11% (a)(b)(c) | 2,951 | 1,091,870 |
| | Barclays Bank Plc, 5.93% (a)(b)(c) | 8,500 | 5,440,000 |
| | First Empire Capital Trust II, 8.28%, 6/01/27 | 3,630 | 2,398,225 |
| | HSBC America Capital Trust I, 7.81%, 12/15/26 (a) | 2,000 | 1,819,660 |
| | HSBC Capital Funding LP/Jersey Channel Islands, 10.18% (a)(b)(c)(f) | 4,835 | 5,125,100 |
| | HSBC Finance Capital Trust IX, 5.91%, 11/30/35 (c) | 7,300 | 4,015,000 |
| | Lloyds Banking Group Plc, 6.66%, 11/21/49 (a)(b)(c) | 5,000 | 2,050,000 |
| | National City Preferred Capital Trust I, 12.00% (b)(c) | 1,100 | 1,160,720 |
| | NationsBank Capital Trust III, 1.06%, 1/15/27 (c) | 13,470 | 7,304,970 |
| | SMFG Preferred Capital USD 3 Ltd., 9.50% (a)(b)(c) | 3,550 | 3,794,808 |
| | Santander Perpetual SA Unipersonal, 6.67%, 10/29/49 (a)(b)(c) | 1,125 | 939,512 |
| | SunTrust Preferred Capital I, 5.85% (b)(c) | 307 | 178,060 |
| | | | 45,222,222 |
| Diversified Financial Services - 4.0% | AgFirst Farm Credit Bank, 8.39%, 12/15/16 (c) | 4,000 | 2,941,684 |
| | Farm Credit Bank of Texas Series 1, 7.56% (b)(c) | 2,500 | 1,684,425 |
| | ING Capital Funding Trust III, 8.44% (b)(c) | 6,066 | 4,155,210 |
| | JPMorgan Chase Capital XXV, 6.80%, 10/01/37 | 6,150 | 5,622,029 |
| | | | 14,403,348 |
| Electric Utilities - 1.3% | PPL Capital Funding, 6.70%, 3/30/67 (c) | 5,925 | 4,503,000 |
| Insurance - 50.7% | AON Corp., 8.21%, 1/01/27 | 10,000 | 9,400,000 |
| | AXA SA, 6.38% (a)(b)(c) | 13,470 | 9,429,000 |
| | Ace Capital Trust II, 9.70%, 4/01/30 | 11,300 | 10,806,653 |

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| | | |
|--|--------|------------|
| The Allstate Corp., 6.50%, 5/15/57 (c) | 12,775 | 10,220,000 |
| The Allstate Corp. Series B, 6.13%, 5/15/67 (c) | 10,450 | 8,151,000 |
| Chubb Corp., 6.38%, 3/29/67 (c) | 17,700 | 14,337,000 |
| Farmers Exchange Capital, 7.05%, 7/15/28 (a) | 5,000 | 3,630,980 |
| Financial Security Assurance Holdings Ltd., 6.40% (a)(c) | 6,930 | 2,841,300 |
| GE Global Insurance Holding Corp., 7.75%, 6/15/30 | 10,000 | 8,448,530 |
| Genworth Financial, Inc., 6.15%, 11/15/66 (c) | 3,000 | 1,425,000 |
| Great West Life & Annuity Insurance Co., 7.15% (a)(c) | 7,500 | 5,625,000 |
| Liberty Mutual Group, Inc., 7.00%, 3/15/37 (a)(c) | 10,150 | 6,553,967 |
| Liberty Mutual Group, Inc., 10.75%, 6/15/88 (a)(c) | 7,925 | 6,676,812 |
| Lincoln National Corp., 7.00%, 5/17/66 (c) | 12,000 | 7,860,000 |
| Lincoln National Corp., 6.05%, 4/20/67 (c) | 5,025 | 3,065,250 |
| MetLife, Inc., 6.40%, 12/15/66 | 16,825 | 13,207,625 |

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

(Percentages shown are based on Net Assets)

Schedule of Investments July 31, 2009 (Unaudited)

| Preferred Securities | | Par | Value |
|--|---|---------------|--------------|
| Industry | Capital Trusts | (000) | |
| | Nationwide Life Global Funding I, 6.75%, 5/15/67 | \$ 9,675 | \$ 6,149,401 |
| | Oil Casualty Insurance Ltd., 8.00%, 9/15/34 (a) | 3,605 | 2,163,000 |
| | Principal Life Insurance Co., 8.00%, 3/01/44 (a) | 6,325 | 4,741,568 |
| | Progressive Corp., 6.70%, 6/15/67 (c)(f) | 11,650 | 8,818,549 |
| | Reinsurance Group of America, 6.75%, 12/15/65 (c) | 3,000 | 1,934,817 |
| | Swiss Re Capital I LP, 6.85% (a)(b)(c) | 8,875 | 5,325,000 |
| | The Travelers Cos., Inc., 6.25%, 3/15/67 (c) | 12,850 | 10,930,544 |
| | ZFS Finance (USA) Trust IV, 5.88%, 5/09/32 (a)(c) | 1,300 | 1,056,575 |
| | ZFS Finance (USA) Trust V, 6.50%, 5/09/67 (a)(c) | 17,110 | 14,201,300 |
| | Zenith National Insurance Capital Trust I, 8.55%, 8/01/28 (a) | 3,750 | 3,506,250 |
| | | | 180,505,121 |
| Multi-Utilities - 3.1% | Dominion Resources Capital Trust I, 7.83%, 12/01/27 | 10,000 | 9,772,490 |
| | Puget Sound Energy, Inc. Series A, 6.97%, 6/01/67 (c) | 1,825 | 1,333,929 |
| | | | 11,106,419 |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels | | | |
| - | Enterprise Products Operating LLC, 8.38%, 8/01/66 (c) | 4,225 | 3,675,750 |
| 5.8% | Southern Union Co., 7.20%, 11/01/66 (c) | 14,400 | 10,368,000 |
| | TransCanada Pipelines Ltd., 6.35%, 5/15/67 (c) | 8,300 | 6,474,000 |
| | | | 20,517,750 |
| Road & Rail - 0.8% | BNSF Funding Trust I, 6.61%, 12/15/55 (c) | 3,750 | 3,000,000 |
| | Total Capital Trusts - 83.4% | | 297,103,210 |
| | Preferred Stocks | Shares | |
| Capital Markets - 0.0% | Deutsche Bank Contingent Capital Trust II, 6.55% | 530 | 10,457 |
| Commercial Banks - 9.1% | Barclays Bank Plc, 8.13% | 225,000 | 5,152,500 |
| | First Tennessee Bank NA, 3.90% (a)(c) | 4,650 | 1,862,906 |
| | HSBC USA, Inc. Series D, 4.50% (c)(g) | 131,700 | 2,502,300 |
| | HSBC USA, Inc. Series H, 6.50% | 120,000 | 2,678,400 |
| | Provident Financial Group, Inc., 7.75% | 166,800 | 3,799,921 |
| | Royal Bank of Scotland Group Plc Series M, 6.40% | 15,000 | 200,100 |
| | SG Preferred Capital II, 6.30% (c) | 23,000 | 13,800,000 |
| | Santander Finance Preferred SA Unipersonal, 6.80% | 102,200 | 2,401,700 |
| | | | 32,397,827 |
| Diversified Financial Services | | | |
| - | Cobank ACB, 7.00% | 152,000 | 4,775,536 |
| 1.3% | | | |
| Electric Utilities - 3.3% | Alabama Power Co., 5.83% | 14,000 | 338,800 |

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| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------|------------|
| | Alabama Power Co., 6.50% | 145,000 | 3,277,000 |
| | Entergy Arkansas, Inc., 6.45% | 114,400 | 2,320,181 |
| | Entergy Louisiana LLC, 6.95% | 49,850 | 3,489,500 |
| | Interstate Power & Light Co. Series B, 8.38% | 80,000 | 2,160,800 |
| | | | 11,586,281 |
| Insurance - 14.3% | Aspen Insurance Holdings Ltd., 7.40% (c) | 194,000 | 3,530,800 |
| | Axis Capital Holdings Ltd. Series A, 7.25% | 129,300 | 2,783,829 |
| | Axis Capital Holdings Ltd. Series B, 7.50% (c) | 36,000 | 2,904,750 |
| | Endurance Specialty Holdings Ltd. Series A, 7.75% | 139,200 | 2,846,640 |
| | MetLife, Inc. Series B, 6.50% | 904,400 | 20,710,760 |

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

(Percentages shown are based on Net Assets)

Schedule of Investments July 31, 2009 (Unaudited)

| Industry | Preferred Securities | Shares | Value |
|---|--|--------------|--------------|
| | Preferred Stocks | | |
| | Prudential Plc, 6.50% | 92,400 | \$ 1,963,500 |
| | RenaissanceRe Holding Ltd. Series D, 6.60% | 435,000 | 9,143,700 |
| | Zurich RegCaPS Funding Trust, 6.58% (a)(c) | 9,800 | 7,144,813 |
| | | | 51,028,792 |
| Multi-Utilities - 2.9% | Pacific Gas & Electric Co. Series A, 6.00% | 140,000 | 3,592,400 |
| | Dominion Resources, Inc., 7.50% (c) | 8,400,000 | 6,636,000 |
| | | | 10,228,400 |
| Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) - 5.8% | BRE Properties, Inc. Series D, 6.75% | 35,000 | 652,050 |
| | Developers Diversified Realty Corp., 8.00% | 400,000 | 5,872,000 |
| | First Industrial Realty Trust, Inc., 6.24% (c) | 2,390 | 924,631 |
| | Firstar Realty LLC, 8.88% (a) | 4,000 | 3,818,750 |
| | Kimco Realty Corp. Series F, 6.65% | 50,000 | 960,500 |
| | Public Storage, Inc. Series I, 7.25% | 160,000 | 3,880,000 |
| | Public Storage Series F, 6.45% | 40,000 | 824,000 |
| | Public Storage Series M, 6.63% | 71,900 | 1,547,288 |
| | Regency Centers Corp. Series D, 7.25% | 100,000 | 2,080,000 |
| | | | 20,559,219 |
| Thrifts & Mortgage Finance - 0.3% | Sovereign Bancorp, Inc. Series C, 7.30% (h) | 48,000 | 1,099,680 |
| Wireless Telecommunication Services - 0.6% | Centaur Funding Corp., 9.08% | 2,423 | 2,036,077 |
| | Total Preferred Stocks - 37.6% | | 133,722,269 |
| | | Par | |
| | | (000) | |
| | Trust Preferreds | | |
| Communications Equipment - 0.4% | Corporate-Backed Trust Certificates, Motorola Debenture Backed Series 2002-14, 8.38%, 11/15/28 | \$ 2,000 | 1,545,987 |
| Consumer Finance - 4.0% | Capital One Capital II, 7.50%, 6/15/66 | 16,702 | 14,190,246 |
| Diversified Financial Services - 0.8% | ING Groep NV, 7.20% (b) | 3,500 | 2,776,246 |
| Electric Utilities - 2.7% | Georgia Power Co. Series O, 1.48%, 4/15/33 | 1,250 | 1,240,192 |
| | HECO Capital Trust III, 6.50%, 3/18/34 | 1,250 | 1,142,993 |
| | National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corp., 6.75%, 2/15/43 | 1,250 | 1,176,158 |
| | PPL Energy Supply LLC, 7.00%, 7/15/46 | 5,835 | 5,971,399 |

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| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--------|-------------|
| | | | 9,530,742 |
| Gas Utilities - 4.2% | Southwest Gas Capital II, 7.70%, 9/15/43 | 15,125 | 14,854,049 |
| Insurance - 3.2% | ABN AMRO North America Capital Funding Trust II, 2.87% (a)(b)(c) | 11,000 | 646,316 |
| | Lincoln National Capital VI Series F, 6.75%, 9/11/52 | 5,000 | 3,930,818 |
| | W.R. Berkley Capital Trust II, 6.75%, 7/26/45 | 7,375 | 6,884,192 |
| | | | 11,461,326 |
| | Total Trust Preferreds - 15.3% | | 54,358,596 |
| | Total Preferred Securities - 136.3% | | 485,184,075 |

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.**Schedule of Investments July 31, 2009****(Unaudited)****(Percentages shown are based on Net Assets)**

| Industry | Corporate Bonds | Par (000) | Value |
|--|---|----------------------|--------------|
| Insurance - 2.5% | Oil Insurance Ltd., 7.56% (a)(b)(c) | \$ 5,000 | \$ 2,235,350 |
| | QBE Insurance Group Ltd., 9.75%, 3/14/14 (a) | 5,967 | 6,478,986 |
| | Structured Asset Repackaged Trust Series 2004-1, 1.63%, 4/21/11 (a)(b)(c) | 341 | 299,986 |
| | Total Corporate Bonds - 2.5% | | 9,014,322 |
| | Total Long-Term Investments | | |
| | (Cost - \$654,954,349) - 138.8% | | 494,198,397 |
| | Short-Term Securities | Shares | |
| | BlackRock Liquidity Funds, TempFund, 0.29% (i)(j) | 35,181,340 | 35,181,340 |
| | Total Short-Term Securities | | |
| | (Cost - \$35,181,340) - 9.9% | | 35,181,340 |
| Total Investments | | | |
| (Cost - \$690,135,689*) - 148.7% | | 529,379,737 | |
| Liabilities in Excess of Other Assets - (1.2)% | | (4,236,551) | |
| Preferred Shares, at Redemption Value - (47.5)% | | (169,080,511) | |
| Net Assets Applicable to Common Shares - 100.0% | | \$ 356,062,675 | |

* The cost and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments as of July 31, 2009, as computed for federal income tax purposes, were as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Aggregate cost | \$ 691,191,965 |
| Gross unrealized appreciation | \$ 8,893,126 |
| Gross unrealized depreciation | (170,705,354) |
| Net unrealized depreciation | \$ (161,812,228) |

(a) Security exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration to qualified institutional investors.

(b) Security is perpetual in nature and has no stated maturity date. In certain instances, a final maturity date may be extended and/or the final payment may be deferred at the issuer's option for a specified time without default.

(c) Variable rate security. Rate shown is as of report date.

(d) Non-income producing security.

(e) Issuer filed for bankruptcy and/or is in default of interest payments.

(f) All or a portion of security held as collateral in connection with open reverse repurchase agreements.

(g) All or a portion of security has been pledged as collateral in connection with open financial futures contracts.

(h) Depositary receipts.

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(i) Investments in companies considered to be an affiliate of the Fund, for purposes of Section 2(a)(3) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, were as

follows:

| | Affiliate | Net Activity | Income |
|----------|---|---------------------|---------------|
| TempFund | BlackRock Liquidity Funds, | 35,181,340 | \$ 48,871 |
| Series | BlackRock Liquidity Series, LLC Cash Sweep | \$ (28,803,004) | \$ 108,244 |

(j) Represents the current yield as of report date.

For Fund compliance purposes, the Fund's industry classifications refer to any one or more of the industry sub-

classifications used by one or more widely recognized market indexes or ratings group indexes, and/or as defined by Fund

management. This definition may not apply for purposes of this report, which may combine industry sub-classifications

for reporting

ease.

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

Schedule of Investments July 31, 2009 (Unaudited)

Financial futures contracts purchased as of July 31, 2009 were as follows:

| Contracts | Issue | Expiration Date | Face Amount | Unrealized |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | | Appreciation |
| 26 | 30-Year U.S. Treasury Notes | September 2009 | \$ 3,036,167 | \$ 57,833 |

Reverse repurchase agreements outstanding as of July 31, 2009 were as follows:

| Counterparty | Rate | Trade Date | Maturity Date | Net Closing | Face Amount |
|--------------|-------|------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | | | Amount | |
| Plc | 1.29% | 7/14/09 | 8/17/09 | \$ 7,579,772 | \$ 7,570,819 |

Credit default swaps on single-name issue - buy protection outstanding as of July 31, 2009 were as follows:

| Issuer | Rate | Counterparty | Expiration | Notional Amount (000) | Unrealized |
|--------------------|-------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | Depreciation |
| Altria Group, Inc. | 1.03% | Deutsche Bank AG | December 2013 | \$8,000 | \$ (134,310) |
| Nordstrom Inc. | 5.20% | Deutsche Bank AG | June 2014 | \$2,000 | (315,393) |
| Total | | | | | \$ (449,703) |

Credit default swaps on single-name issue - sold protection outstanding as of July 31, 2009 were as follows:

| Issuer | Fixed Rate | Counterparty | Expiration | Credit Rating ¹ | Notional Amount (000) ² | Unrealized |
|----------------------------|------------|------------------|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | | | Appreciation |
| Morris International, Inc. | 1.73% | Deutsche Bank AG | December 2013 | A | \$8,000 | \$ 233,810 |

¹ Using the Standard and Poor's ratings of the issuer.

² The maximum potential amount the Fund may pay should a negative credit event take place as defined under the terms of the agreement.

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.**Schedule of Investments as of July 31, 2009 (Unaudited)**

Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" clarifies the definition of fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair values and requires additional disclosures about the use of fair value measurements. Various inputs are used in determining the fair value of investments, which are as follows:

Level 1 - price quotations in active markets/exchanges for identical securities

Level 2 - other observable inputs (including, but not limited to: quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in markets that are active, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the assets or liabilities (such as interest rates, yield curves, volatilities, prepayment speeds, loss severities, credit risks and default rates) or other market-corroborated inputs)

Level 3 - unobservable inputs based on the best information available in the circumstances, to the extent observable inputs are not available (including the Fund's own assumptions used in determining the fair value of investments)

The inputs or methodology used for valuing securities are not necessarily an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities. For information about the Fund's policy regarding valuation of investments and other significant accounting policies, please refer to the Fund's most recent financial statements as contained in its semi-annual report.

The following table summarizes the inputs used as of July 31, 2009 in determining the fair valuation of the Fund's investments:

| Valuation Inputs | Investments in Securities Assets |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Level 1 | |
| Long-Term Investments | |
| Preferred Stocks | \$ 80,209,204 |
| Trust Preferreds | 53,712,280 |
| Short-Term Securities | 35,181,340 |
| Total Level 1 | 169,102,824 |
| Level 2 | |
| Long-Term Investments | |
| Capital Trusts | 294,940,210 |
| Preferred Stocks | 36,223,565 |
| Trust Preferreds | 646,316 |
| Corporate Bonds | 8,714,336 |
| Total Level 2 | 340,524,427 |
| Level 3 | |
| Long-Term Investments | |
| Capital Trusts | 2,163,000 |
| Preferred Stocks | 17,289,500 |

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| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Corporate Bonds | 299,986 |
| Total Level 3 | 19,752,486 |
| Total | \$ 529,379,737 |

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BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

Schedule of Investments as of July 31, 2009 (Unaudited)

| Valuation | Inputs | Other Financial Instruments ¹ | |
|--------------|--------|--|-----------------------|
| | | Assets | Liabilities |
| Level 1 | | \$ 57,833 | - |
| Level 2 | | - | \$ (8,020,522) |
| Level 3 | | 233,810 | - |
| Total | | \$ 291,643 | \$ (8,020,522) |

¹ Other financial instruments are swaps, financial futures contracts and reverse repurchase agreements. Swaps and financial futures contracts are shown at the unrealized appreciation/depreciation on the instrument. Reverse repurchase agreements are shown at market value.

The following is a reconciliation of investments for unobservable inputs (Level 3) used in determining fair value:

| | Investments in Securities | | | | Total |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| | Capital Trusts | Preferred Stocks | Corporate Bonds | | |
| Balance, as of October 31, 2008 | | | - | - | - |
| Realized gain (loss) | | | - | - | - |
| Change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation | | | - | - | - |
| Net sales | | | - | - | - |
| Net transfers in | \$ 2,163,000 | \$ 17,289,500 | \$ 299,986 | | \$ 19,752,486 |
| Balance, as of July 31, 2009 | \$ 2,163,000 | \$ 17,289,500 | \$ 299,986 | | \$ 19,752,486 |

| | Other Financial Instruments ² |
|---------------------------------|--|
| | Assets |
| Balance, as of October 31, 2008 | - |
| Accrued discounts/premiums | - |
| Realized gain (loss) | - |

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| | |
|--|------------|
| Change in unrealized appreciation/depreciation | - |
| Net purchases (sales) | - |
| Net transfers in | \$ 233,810 |
| Balance, as of July 31, | |
| 2009 | \$ 233,810 |

² Other financial instruments are swaps which are shown at the unrealized appreciation/depreciation on the instrument.

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Item 2 Controls and Procedures

2(a) The registrant's principal executive and principal financial officers or persons performing similar functions have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act)) are effective as of a date within 90 days of the filing of this report based on the evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act and Rule 13(a)-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

2(b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 3 Exhibits

Certifications Attached hereto

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

By: /s/ Anne F. Ackerley

Anne F. Ackerley

Chief Executive Officer of

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

Date: September 22, 2009

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Anne F. Ackerley

Anne F. Ackerley

Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer) of

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

Date: September 22, 2009

By: /s/ Neal J. Andrews

Neal J. Andrews

Chief Financial Officer (principal financial officer) of

BlackRock Preferred Income Strategies Fund, Inc.

Date: September 22, 2009
