

LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP
Form 8-K
November 17, 2008

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of
the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

November 14, 2008
Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported)

Lincoln National Corporation
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Indiana (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	1-6028 (Commission File Number)	35-1140070 (IRS Employer Identification No.)
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150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Radnor, PA 19087
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(484) 583-1400
(Registrant's telephone number)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 7.01. Regulation FD Disclosure

On November 17, 2008, Lincoln National Corporation (“LNC”) issued the press release attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 8.01 Other Events.

On November 14, 2008, LNC applied with the Office of Thrift Supervision to become a savings and loan holding company concurrently with reaching an agreement to acquire Newton County Loan & Savings, FSB, a federally regulated savings bank, located in Indiana. Subject to customary terms and conditions, the acquisition of Newton County Loan & Savings, FSB, is expected to close following receipt of approval from the Office of Thrift Supervision. LNC also filed an application with the U.S. Treasury to participate in the TARP Capital Purchase Program (TARP CPP).

LNC's applications to become a savings and loan holding company and to participate in the TARP CPP are subject to approvals from the Office of Thrift Supervision and the U.S. Treasury. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that it will become a savings and loan holding company or participate in the TARP CPP.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS—CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE

Certain statements made in this Form 8-K are “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (“PSLRA”). A forward-looking statement is a statement that is not a historical fact and, without limitation, includes any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements, and may contain words like: “believe,” “anticipate,” “expect,” “estimate,” “project,” “will,” “shall” and other words and phrases with similar meaning in connection with a discussion of future operating or financial performance. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions, trends in our business, prospective services or products, future performance or financial results and the outcome of contingencies, such as legal proceedings. We claim the protection afforded by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided by the PSLRA.

Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from the results contained in the forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to vary materially, some of which are described within the forward-looking statements, include, among others:

- Continued deterioration in general economic and business conditions, both domestic and foreign, that may affect foreign exchange rates, premium levels, claims experience, the level of pension benefit costs and funding and investment results;
- Continued economic declines and credit market illiquidity could cause us to realize additional impairments on investments and certain intangible assets including a valuation allowance against deferred tax assets, which may reduce future earnings and/or affect our financial condition and ability to raise additional capital or refinance existing debt as it matures;
- Uncertainty about the effectiveness of the U.S. Treasury’s Troubled Asset Relief Program Capital Purchase Program and our ability to participate in the program;
- Legislative, regulatory or tax changes, both domestic and foreign, that affect the cost of, or demand for, LNC’s products, the required amount of reserves and/or surplus, or otherwise affect our ability to conduct business, including changes to statutory reserves and/or risk-based capital (“RBC”) requirements related to secondary guarantees under universal life and variable annuity products such as Actuarial Guideline VACARVM (“VACARVM”);

restrictions on revenue sharing and 12b-1 payments; and the potential for U.S. Federal tax reform;

- The initiation of legal or regulatory proceedings against LNC or its subsidiaries, and the outcome of any legal or regulatory proceedings, such as: adverse actions related to present or past business practices common in businesses in which LNC and its subsidiaries compete; adverse decisions in significant actions including, but not limited to, actions brought by federal and state authorities and extra-contractual and class action damage cases; new decisions that result in changes in law; and unexpected trial court rulings;
- Changes in interest rates causing a reduction of investment income, the margins of LNC's fixed annuity and life insurance businesses and demand for LNC's products;
- A decline in the equity markets causing a reduction in the sales of LNC's products, a reduction of asset-based fees that LNC charges on various investment and insurance products, an acceleration of amortization of deferred acquisition costs ("DAC"), value of business acquired ("VOBA"), deferred sales inducements ("DSI") and deferred front-end sales loads ("DFEL") and an increase in liabilities related to guaranteed benefit features of LNC's variable annuity products;
- Ineffectiveness of LNC's various hedging strategies used to offset the impact of changes in the value of liabilities due to changes in the level and volatility of the equity markets and interest rates;
- A deviation in actual experience regarding future persistency, mortality, morbidity, interest rates or equity market returns from LNC's assumptions used in pricing its products, in establishing related insurance reserves and in the amortization of intangibles that may result in an increase in reserves and a decrease in net income, including as a result of stranger-originated life insurance business;
- Changes in GAAP that may result in unanticipated changes to LNC's net income, including the impact of Statements of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 157, "Fair Value Measurements" ("SFAS 157") and SFAS No. 159, "The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities";
- Lowering of one or more of LNC's debt ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations and the adverse impact such action may have on LNC's ability to raise capital and on its liquidity and financial condition;
- Lowering of one or more of the insurer financial strength ratings of LNC's insurance subsidiaries and the adverse impact such action may have on the premium writings, policy retention and profitability of its insurance subsidiaries;
- Significant credit, accounting, fraud or corporate governance issues that may adversely affect the value of certain investments in the portfolios of LNC's companies requiring that LNC realize losses on such investments;
- The impact of acquisitions and divestitures, restructurings, product withdrawals and other unusual items, including LNC's ability to integrate acquisitions and to obtain the anticipated results and synergies from acquisitions, including LNC's ability to successfully integrate Jefferson-Pilot Corporation businesses acquired on April 3, 2006, to achieve the expected synergies from the merger or to achieve such synergies within our expected timeframe;
- The adequacy and collectibility of reinsurance that LNC has purchased;
- Acts of terrorism, war or other man-made and natural catastrophes that may adversely affect LNC's businesses and the cost and availability of reinsurance;
- Competitive conditions, including pricing pressures, new product offerings and the emergence of new competitors, that may affect the level of premiums and fees that LNC can charge for its products;
- The unknown impact on LNC's business resulting from changes in the demographics of LNC's client base, as aging baby-boomers move from the asset-accumulation stage to the asset-distribution stage of life; and

- Loss of key management, portfolio managers in the Investment Management segment, financial planners or wholesalers.

The risks included here are not exhaustive. “Risk Factors” below as well as our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and other documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission include additional factors that could impact LNC’s business and financial performance, which are incorporated herein by reference. Moreover, we operate in a rapidly changing and competitive environment. New risk factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors.

Further, it is not possible to assess the impact of all risk factors on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Given these risks and uncertainties, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results. In addition, we disclaim any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this Form 8-K.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

The Exhibit Index set forth on page E-1 is incorporated herein by reference.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Lincoln National Corporation

By: /s/ Frederick J. Crawford
Frederick J. Crawford
Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer

Date: November 17, 2008

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit Number

Description

99.1

Press Release dated November 17, 2008.

E-1
