

NUVEEN CALIFORNIA SELECT TAX FREE INCOME PORTFOLIO
Form N-Q
February 27, 2006

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549**

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-6623

Nuveen California Select Tax-Free Income Portfolio

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

Jessica R. Droeger Vice President and Secretary

333 West Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606

(Name and address of agent for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 312-917-7700

Date of fiscal year end: 3/31

Date of reporting period: 12/31/05

Form N-Q is to be used by management investment companies, other than small business investment companies registered on Form N-5 (§§ 239.24 and 274.5 of this chapter), to file reports with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the close of the first and third fiscal quarters, pursuant to rule 30b1-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30b1-5). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-Q in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-Q, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-Q unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. § 3507.

Item 1. Schedule of Investments

Portfolio of Investments (Unaudited)

Nuveen California Select Tax-Free Income Portfolio (NXC)

December 31, 2005

Principal

Amount (000) Description

**Op
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| | | |
|--|--|-------|
| Consumer Staples - 2.1% | | |
| \$ | 235 California County Tobacco Securitization Agency, Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Sonoma County Tobacco Securitization Corporation, Series 2005, 4.250%, 6/01/21 | 6/15 |
| | 1,675 California County Tobacco Securitization Agency, Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Revenue Bonds, Fresno County Tobacco Funding Corporation, Series 2002, 5.625%, 6/01/23 | 6/12 |
| <hr/> | | |
| | 1,910 Total Consumer Staples | |
| <hr/> | | |
| Education and Civic Organizations - 12.2% | | |
| | 1,000 California Educational Facilities Authority, Revenue Bonds, Stanford University, Series 1999P, 5.000%, 12/01/23 | 12/09 |
| | 1,000 California Educational Facilities Authority, Revenue Bonds, University of San Diego, Series 2002A, 5.500%, 10/01/32 | 10/12 |
| | 2,600 California Educational Facilities Authority, Revenue Bonds, University of the Pacific, Series 2002, 5.250%, 11/01/21 | 11/11 |
| | 3,000 California Infrastructure Economic Development Bank, Revenue Bonds, J. David Gladstone Institutes, Series 2001, 5.500%, 10/01/1 | 10/11 |
| | 2,000 California State Public Works Board, Lease Revenue Bonds, University of California System, Series 2002A, 5.000%, 10/01/22 - FSA Insured | 10/12 |
| | 1,000 Long Beach Bond Financing Authority, California, Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds, Long Beach Aquarium of the South Pacific, Series 2001, 5.250%, 11/01/30 - AMBAC Insured | 11/11 |
| <hr/> | | |
| | 10,600 Total Education and Civic Organizations | |
| <hr/> | | |
| Health Care - 9.1% | | |
| | 225 California Health Facilities Financing Authority, Revenue Bonds, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Series 2005, 5.000%, 11/15/34 | 11/15 |
| | 2,000 California Infrastructure Economic Development Bank, Revenue Bonds, Kaiser Hospital Assistance LLC, Series 2001A, 5.550%, 8/01/31 | 8/11 |
| | 1,500 California Statewide Community Development Authority, Hospital Revenue Bonds, Monterey Peninsula Hospital, Series 2003B, 5.250%, 6/01/18 - FSA Insured | 6/13 |
| | 1,500 California Statewide Community Development Authority, Insured Mortgage Hospital Revenue Bonds, Mission Community Hospital, Series 2001, 5.375%, 11/01/26 | 11/09 |
| | 90 California Statewide Community Development Authority, Revenue Bonds, Daughters of Charity Health System, Series 2005A, 5.250%, 7/01/24 | 7/15 |
| | 1,880 California Statewide Community Development Authority, Revenue Bonds, Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital Foundation, Series 2000, 5.500%, 6/01/17 - AMBAC Insured | 6/07 |
| | 790 Central California Joint Powers Health Finance Authority, Certificates of Participation, Community Hospitals of Central California, Series 1993, 5.000%, 2/01/23 | 2/06 |
| <hr/> | | |
| | 7,985 Total Health Care | |
| <hr/> | | |
| Housing/Multifamily - 0.9% | | |
| | 750 California Statewide Community Development Authority, Student Housing Revenue Bonds, EAH - Irvine East Campus Apartments, LLC Project, Series 2002A, 5.500%, 8/01/22 - ACA Insured | 8/12 |
| <hr/> | | |
| Industrials - 1.4% | | |
| | 1,250 California Pollution Control Financing Authority, Solid Waste Disposal Revenue Bonds, Republic Services Inc., Series 2002C, 5.250%, 6/01/23 (Mandatory put 12/01/17) (Alternative Minimum Tax) | 6/2 |
| <hr/> | | |
| Long-Term Care - 1.7% | | |

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1,500 ABAG Finance Authority for Non-Profit Corporations, California, Insured Senior Living Revenue Bonds, Odd Fellows Home of California, Series 2003A, 5.200%, 11/15/22

11/1

Tax Obligation/General - 22.1%

California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2003:

500 5.250%, 11/01/19 - RAAI Insured

11/1

1,450 5.250%, 2/01/21

8/1

1,000 5.250%, 2/01/22 - CFG Insured

8/1

California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2004:

750 5.000%, 2/01/23

2/1

800 5.125%, 4/01/25

4/1

2,000 Fremont Unified School District, Alameda County, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2002A, 5.000%, 8/01/21 - FGIC Insured

8/1

Golden West Schools Financing Authority, California, General Obligation Revenue Refunding Bonds, School District Program, Series 1999A:

4,650 0.000%, 8/01/16 - MBIA Insured

1,750 0.000%, 2/01/17 - MBIA Insured

2,375 0.000%, 8/01/17 - MBIA Insured

2,345 0.000%, 2/01/18 - MBIA Insured

395 Los Angeles Community College District, Los Angeles County, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005A, 5.000%, 6/01/26 - FSA Insured

8/1

Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District, Santa Clara County, California, General Obligation Capital Appreciation Bonds, Series 1995C:

1,015 0.000%, 5/01/17 - MBIA Insured

1,080 0.000%, 5/01/18 - MBIA Insured

Oakland Unified School District, Alameda County, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005:

130 5.000%, 8/01/25 - MBIA Insured

8/1

135 5.000%, 8/01/26 - MBIA Insured

8/1

1,500 San Diego Unified School District, San Diego County, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2003E, 5.250%, 7/01/24 - FSA Insured

7/1

San Jose-Evergreen Community College District, Santa Clara County, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005A:

100 5.000%, 9/01/25 - MBIA Insured

9/1

150 5.000%, 9/01/27 - MBIA Insured

9/1

2,565 Sunnyvale School District, Santa Clara County, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005A, 5.000%, 9/01/26 - FSA Insured

9/1

24,690 Total Tax Obligation/General

Tax Obligation/Limited - 16.8%

1,000 Bell Community Redevelopment Agency, California, Tax Allocation Bonds, Bell Project Area, Series 2003, 5.625%, 10/01/33 - RAAI Insured

10/1

3,500 California State Public Works Board, Lease Revenue Bonds, Department of Corrections, Calipatria State Prison, Series 1991A, 6.500%, 9/01/17 - MBIA Insured

1,000 California State Public Works Board, Lease Revenue Bonds, Department of Mental Health, Coalinga State Hospital, Series 2004A, 5.500%, 6/01/23

6/1

1,250 California, Economic Recovery Revenue Bonds, Series 2004A, 5.000%, 7/01/15

7/1

1,000 Fontana Public Financing Authority, California, Tax Allocation Revenue Bonds, North Fontana Redevelopment Project, Series 2005A, 5.000%, 10/01/32 - AMBAC Insured

10/1

90 Hesperia Community Redevelopment Agency, California, Tax Allocation Bonds, Series 2005A, 5.000%, 9/01/20 - XLCA Insured

9/1

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| | | |
|-------|--|------|
| 1,300 | Orange County, California, Special Tax Bonds, Community Facilities District 03-1 of Ladera Ranch, Series 2004A, 5.625%, 8/15/34 | 8/1 |
| 105 | Rialto Redevelopment Agency, California, Tax Allocation Bonds, Merged Project Area, Series 2005A, 5.000%, 9/01/35 - XLCA Insured | 9/1 |
| 215 | Riverside County Public Financing Authority, California, Tax Allocation Bonds, Multiple Projects, Series 2005A, 5.000%, 0/01/35 - XLCA Insured | 10/1 |
| 605 | Sacramento City Financing Authority, California, Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 1993A, 5.400%, 11/01/20 - MBIA Insured | |
| 3,000 | San Mateo County Transit District, California, Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2005A, 5.000%, 6/01/21 - MBIA Insured | 6/1 |
| 1,000 | Santa Clara County Board of Education, California, Certificates of Participation, Series 2002, 5.000%, 4/01/25 - MBIA Insured | 4/1 |

14,065 Total Tax Obligation/Limited

Transportation - 11.4%

| | | |
|-------|--|------|
| 1,150 | Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency, California, Toll Road Revenue Bonds, Series 1995A, 5.000%, 1/01/35 | 1/1 |
| 5,000 | Los Angeles Harbors Department, California, Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2001B, 5.500%, 8/01/17 - AMBAC Insured (Alternative Minimum Tax) | 8/1 |
| 2,915 | Palm Springs Financing Authority, California, Palm Springs Regional Airport Revenue Bonds, Series 1992, 6.000%, 1/01/12 - MBIA Insured (Alternative Minimum Tax) | 1/0 |
| 1,000 | Port of Oakland, California, Revenue Bonds, Series 2002M, 5.250%, 11/01/20 - FGIC Insured | 11/1 |

10,065 Total Transportation

U.S. Guaranteed(3) - 10.4%

| | | |
|-------|---|-----|
| 500 | Beverly Hills Unified School District, Los Angeles County, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2002A, 5.000%, 8/01/26 (Pre-refunded 8/01/12) | 8/1 |
| | California Department of Water Resources, Power Supply Revenue Bonds, Series 2002A: | |
| 2,000 | 5.750%, 5/01/17 (Pre-refunded 5/01/12) | 5/1 |
| 2,000 | 5.125%, 5/01/19 (Pre-refunded 5/01/12) | 5/1 |
| 750 | California Educational Facilities Authority, Revenue Bonds, Pepperdine University, Series 2002A, 5.500%, 8/01/32 (Pre-refunded 8/01/09) | 8/0 |
| 1,400 | Golden State Tobacco Securitization Corporation, California, Enhanced Tobacco Settlement Asset-Backed Bonds, Series 2003B, 5.500%, 6/01/33 (Pre-refunded 6/01/13) | 6/1 |
| 2,000 | North Orange County Community College District, California, General Obligation Bonds, Series 2002A, 5.000%, 8/01/22 (Pre-refunded 8/01/12) - MBIA Insured | 8/1 |

8,650 Total U.S. Guaranteed

Utilities - 2.0%

| | | |
|-------|---|-----|
| 200 | Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, California, Power System Revenue Bonds, Series 2003A-2, 5.000%, 7/01/21 - MBIA Insured | 7/1 |
| 215 | Merced Irrigation District, California, Electric System Revenue Bonds, Series 2005, 5.125%, 9/01/31 - XLCA Insured | 9/1 |
| 1,225 | Turlock Irrigation District, California, Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 1992A, 6.250%, 1/01/12 - MBIA Insured | |

1,640 Total Utilities

Water and Sewer - 7.8%

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| | |
|--|------|
| 2,160 California Statewide Community Development Authority, Water and Wastewater Revenue Bonds, Pooled Financing Program, Series 2001B, 5.125%, 10/01/22 - FSA Insured | 10/1 |
| 2,800 Los Angeles, California, Wastewater System Revenue Bonds, Series 1998A, 5.000%, 6/01/23 - FGIC Insured | 6/0 |
| 825 South Feather Water and Power Agency, California, Water Revenue Certificates of Participation, Solar Photovoltaic Project, Series 2003, 5.375%, 4/01/24 | 4/1 |
| 1,000 Woodbridge Irrigation District, California, Certificates of Participation, Water Systems Project, Series 2003, 5.625%, 7/01/43 | 7/1 |

6,785 Total Water and Sewer

\$ 89,890 Total Investments (cost \$85,094,962) - 97.9%

Other Assets Less Liabilities - 2.1%

Net Assets - 100%

- (1) Optional Call Provisions: Dates (month and year) and prices of the earliest optional call or redemption. There may be other call provisions at varying prices at later dates. Certain mortgage-backed securities may be subject to periodic principal paydowns.
- (2) Ratings: Using the higher of Standard & Poor's or Moody's rating. Ratings below Baa by Moody's Investor Service, Inc. or BBB by Standard & Poor's Group are considered to be below investment grade.
- (3) Securities are backed by an escrow or trust containing sufficient U.S. Government or U.S. Government agency securities which ensures the timely payment of principal and interest. Such securities are normally considered to be equivalent to AAA rated securities.
- N/R Investment is not rated.

Income Tax Information

The following information is presented on an income tax basis. Differences between amounts for financial statement and federal income tax purposes are primarily due to timing differences in recognizing taxable market discount and timing differences in recognizing certain gains and losses on investment transactions.

At December 31, 2005, the cost of investments was \$85,093,904.

Gross unrealized appreciation and gross unrealized depreciation of investments at December 31, 2005, were as follows:

| | | |
|---|----|-----------|
| Gross unrealized: | | |
| Appreciation | \$ | 4,785,925 |
| Depreciation | | (19,290) |
| Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments | \$ | 4,766,635 |

Item 2. Controls and Procedures.

- 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

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Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c)) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of the controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rule 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).

- 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 (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d)) 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.

File as exhibits as part of this Form a separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant as required by Rule 30a-2(a) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-2(a)), exactly as set forth below: EX-99 CERT Attached hereto.

SIGNATURES

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.

(Registrant) Nuveen California Select Tax-Free Income Portfolio

By (Signature and Title)* /s/ Jessica R. Droeger
Jessica R. Droeger
Vice President and Secretary

Date 2/27/06

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 (Signature and Title)* /s/ Gifford R. Zimmerman
Gifford R. Zimmerman
Chief Administrative Officer (principal executive officer)

Date 2/27/06

By (Signature and Title)* /s/ Stephen D. Foy
Stephen D. Foy
Vice President and Controller (principal financial officer)

Date 2/27/06

* Print the name and title of each signing officer under his or her signature.