# 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 811-22072

The Cushing MLP Total Return Fund (Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

3300 Oak Lawn Avenue Suite 650 Dallas, TX 75219 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip code)

> Jerry V. Swank 3300 Oak Lawn Avenue Suite 650 Dallas, TX 75219 (Name and address of agent for service)

214-692-6334 Registrant's telephone number, including area code

Date of fiscal year end: November 30

Date of reporting period: February 29, 2008

Item 1. Schedule of Investments.

The Cushing MLP Total Return Fund SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited)			
SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (Unaudited)	February 29, 20	Fahruary 20, 2008	
Common Stock - 1.8% (1)	Shares	Value	
Crude/Refined Products Pipelines - 1.8% (1)	Situres	, arac	
Canada - 1.8% (1)			
Enbridge Income Fund (Cost \$2,815,067)	262,000 \$	2,797,684	
Master Limited Partnerships and Related Companies - United States - 108.6% (1)			
Coal - 7.5% (1)			
Alliance Holdings GP, L.P.	83,140	1,921,365	
Alliance Resource Partners, L.P. (2)	168,000	6,370,560	
Natural Resource Partners, L.P.	100,000	3,208,000	
		11,499,925	
Crude/Refined Products Pipelines - 24.3% (1)			
Calument Specialty Products Partners, L.P.	201,180	6,069,601	
Constellation Energy Partners, L.P.	235,294	4,941,174	
Genesis Energy, L.P.	129,200	2,777,800	
Holly Energy Partners, L.P.	66,700	2,740,036	
Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.	30,000	1,723,800	
Kinder Morgan Management, LLC	111,038	6,052,681	
Magellan Midstream Holdings, L.P.	207,000	5,324,040	
TransMontaigne Partners, L.P.	260,000	7,688,200	
		37,317,332	
Crude/Refined Products Transportation and Storage - 17.7% (1)			
Buckeye Partners, L.P.	76,300	3,744,804	
Enbridge Energy Partners, L.P.	254,286	12,709,214	
SemGroup Energy Partners, L.P.	425,648	10,611,405	
		27,065,423	
Natural Gas/Natural Gas Liquid Pipelines and Storage - 17.3% (1)			
Cheniere Energy Partners, L.P.	328,900	5,525,520	
Duncan Energy Partners, L.P.	2,700	56,997	
El Paso Pipeline Partners, L.P.	42,210	989,402	
Energy Transfer Equity, L.P.	325,400	10,822,804	
Energy Transfer Partners, L.P.	75,400	3,613,168	
Enterprise GP Holdings, L.P.	175,000	5,498,500	
		26,506,391	
Natural Gas Gathering/Processing - 32.0% (1)			
Atlas Pipeline Holdings, L.P.	144,400	4,622,244	
Atlas Pipeline Partners, L.P.	309,500	13,710,850	
Crosstex Energy, L.P.	23,000	727,030	
Hiland Holdings GP, L.P.	178,431	4,419,736	
Hiland Partners, L.P.	131,674	6,674,555	
MarkWest Energy Partners, L.P.	525,000	18,112,500	
Quicksilver Gas Services, L.P.	36,035	867,363	
		49,134,278	
Shipping - 5.5% (1)			
Martin Midstream Partners, L.P.	105,000	3,556,350	

OSG America, L.P.		349,209	4,888,926 8,445,276
Propane - 4.3% (1)			
Inergy, L.P.		209,700	6,125,337
Inergy Holdings, L.P.		11,020	487,084
			6,612,421
Total Master Limited Part	tnerships and Related Companies (Cost \$177,792,141)		166,581,046
	United States Investment Companies - 3.9% (1)		
AIM Short-Term Treasury	1,179,885	1,179,885	
Dreyfus Cash Managemen	1,179,885	1,179,885	
•	folio Fund - Institutional Class (2)	1,179,884	1,179,884
First American Treasury Obligations Fund - Class Y (2)		1,179,885	1,179,885
	Obligations Fund - Class Z (2)	1,179,885	1,179,885
Total Short-Term Investm	nents (Cost \$5,899,424)		5,899,424
	% (1) (Cost \$186,506,632)		175,278,154
Liabilities in Excess of Ot			(21,921,132)
Total Net Assets Applicat	ble to Common Stockholders - 100.0% (1)		\$153,357,022
Securities Sold Short - (4.	6%) (1)		
SPDR Trust Series 1		53,000.00	7,092,460
Total Securities Sold Shor	rt - (4.6%) (1) (Proceeds \$6,990,051)		\$ 7,092,460
	Calculated as a percentage of net assets applicable to		
(1)	common stockholders.		
	All or a portion of the shares have been committed as		
(2)	collateral for open short positions.		

At February 29, 2008, the cost basis of investments and the proceeds from securities sold short for federal income tax purposes were \$185,994,520 and \$6,990,051, respectively, and gross unrealized appreciation and depreciation of investments for federal income tax purposes were as follows:

Gross unrealized \$ 4,425,624 appreciation \$ (15,756,511) Wet unrealized depreciation \$ (11,330,887)

#### Item 2. Controls and Procedures.

- (a) The Registrant's President/Chief Executive Officer and Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer have concluded that the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act")) are effective as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on the evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act and Rule 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
  - (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.

Separate certifications 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)). Filed herewith.

#### **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) The Cushing MLP Total Return Fund

By (Signature and Title) /s/ Jerry V. Swank Jerry V. Swank, President

Date April 9, 2008

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/ Jerry V. Swank Jerry V. Swank, President

Date April 9, 2008

By (Signature and Title) /s/ Mark Fordyce Mark Fordyce, Treasurer

Date April 9, 2008