

minimum rate is \$249.14. Because A's calculated compensation rate is below the FY 2003 minimum rate, and his actual weekly wage is above that rate, he is entitled to compensation at the minimum rate of \$249.14 from April 1, 2003, to September 30, 2003. The FY 2004 minimum rate is \$257.70. Because A's actual weekly wages on the date of disability are lower than the FY 2004 minimum rate, A's minimum weekly compensation rate for FY 2004 is \$250.00. His weekly compensation rate for FY 2004, however, is higher because of a section 10(f) adjustment. For FY 2004, A's compensation rate is increased by a 3.44% section 10(f) adjustment, raising his compensation level to \$258.00 ( $\$249.14 \times .0344 = \$8.57$ ;  $\$249.14 + \$8.57 = \$257.71$ , rounded to the nearest dollar).

**§ 702.811 What weekly minimum rates apply to death benefits?**

(a) The average weekly wage used to compute death benefits is the greater of—

(1) The deceased employee's average weekly wages; or

(2) The national average weekly wage in effect at the time of the employee's death.

(b) The weekly minimum rate does not apply to death benefits.

## **PART 703—INSURANCE REGULATIONS**

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- 703.501 Issuance of certificates of compliance.
- 703.502 [Reserved]
- 703.503 Return of certificates of compliance.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301, and 8171 *et seq.*; 33 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*; 42 U.S.C. 1651 *et seq.*; 43 U.S.C. 1333; Reorganization Plan No. 6 of 1950, 15 FR 3174, 64 Stat. 1263; Secretary's Order 10-2009, 74 FR 58834.

SOURCE: 38 FR 26873, Sept. 26, 1973, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—General

SOURCE: 70 FR 43233, July 26, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 703.1 Scope of part.

Part 703 governs insurance carrier authorizations, insurance carrier security deposits, self-insurer authorizations, and certificates of compliance with the insurance regulations. These provisions are required by the LHWCA and apply to the extensions of the LHWCA except as otherwise provided in part 704 of this subchapter.

#### § 703.2 Forms.

(a) Any information required by the regulations in this part to be submitted to OWCP must be submitted on forms the Director authorizes from time to time for such purpose. Persons submitting forms may not modify the forms or use substitute forms without OWCP's approval. These forms must be

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submitted, sent, or filed in the manner prescribed by OWCP.

Form No.	Title
(1) LS-271 .....	Application for Self-Insurance.
(2) LS-274 .....	Report of Injury Experience.
(3) LS-275 SI .....	Self-Insurer's Agreement and Undertaking.
(4) LS-275 IC .....	Insurance Carrier's Agreement and Undertaking.
(5) LS-276 .....	Application for Security Deposit Determination.
(6) LS-405 .....	Indemnity Bond.
(7) LS-570 .....	Card Report of Insurance.

(b) Copies of the forms listed in this section are available for public inspection at the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210. They may also be obtained from OWCP district offices and on the Internet at <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/dlhwc>.

[70 FR 43233, July 26, 2005, as amended at 77 FR 37286, June 21, 2012; 80 FR 12932, Mar. 12, 2015]

#### § 703.3 Failure to secure coverage; penalties.

(a) Each employer must secure the payment of compensation under the Act either through an authorized insurance carrier or by becoming an authorized self-insurer under section 32(a)(1) or (2) of the Act (33 U.S.C. 932(a)(1) or (2)). An employer who fails to comply with these provisions is subject, upon conviction, to a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or both. Where the employer is a corporation, the president, secretary and treasurer each will also be subject to this fine and/or imprisonment, in addition to the fine against the corporation, and each is severally personally liable, jointly with the corporation, for all compensation or other benefits payable under the Act while the corporation fails to secure the payment of compensation.

(b) Any employer who willingly and knowingly transfers, sells, encumbers, assigns or in any manner disposes of, conceals, secretes, or destroys any property belonging to the employer after an employee sustains an injury covered by the Act, with the intent to avoid payment of compensation under

the Act to that employee or his/her dependents, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished, upon conviction, by a fine of not more than \$10,000 and/or imprisonment for one year. Where the employer is a corporation, the president, secretary and treasurer are also severally liable to imprisonment and, along with the corporation, jointly liable for the fine.

### **Subpart B—Authorization of Insurance Carriers**

#### **§ 703.101 Types of companies which may be authorized by the OWCP.**

The OWCP will consider for the granting of authority to write insurance under the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act and its extensions the application of any stock company, mutual company or association, or any other person or fund, while authorized under the laws of the United States or for any State to insure workmen's compensation. The term "carrier" as used in this part means any person or fund duly authorized to insure workmen's compensation benefits under said Act, or its extensions.

#### **§ 703.102 Applications for authority to write insurance; how filed; evidence to be submitted; other requirements.**

An application for authority to write insurance under this Act shall be made in writing, signed by an officer of the applicant duly authorized to make such application, and transmitted to the Office of Workmen's Compensation Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, DC 20210. Such application shall be accompanied by full and complete information regarding the history and experience of such applicant in the writing of workmen's compensation insurance, together with evidence that it has authority in its charter or form of organization to write such insurance, and evidence that the applicant is currently authorized to insure workmen's compensation liability under the laws of the United States or of any State. The statements of fact in each application and in the supporting evidence shall be verified by the oath of the officer of the applicant who signs such ap-

plication. Each applicant shall state in its application the area or areas, in which it intends to do business. In connection with any such application the following shall be submitted, the Office reserving the right to call for such additional information as it may deem necessary in any particular case:

(a) A copy of the last annual report made by the applicant to the insurance department or other authority of the State in which it is incorporated, or the State in which its principal business is done.

(b) A certified copy from the proper State authorities of the paper purporting to show the action taken upon such report, or such other evidence as the applicant desires to submit in respect of such report, which may obviate delay caused by an inquiry of the OWCP of the State authorities relative to the standing and responsibility of the applicant.

(c) A full and complete statement of its financial condition, if not otherwise shown, and, if a stock company, shall show specifically its capital stock and surplus.

(d) A copy of its charter or other formal outline of its organization, its rules, its bylaws, and other documents, writings, or agreements by and under which it does business, and such other evidence as it may deem proper to make a full exposition of its affairs and financial condition.

[38 FR 26873, Sept. 26, 1973; 50 FR 406, Jan. 3, 1985]

#### **§ 703.103 Stock companies holding Treasury certificates of authority.**

A stock company furnishing evidence that it is authorized to write workmen's compensation insurance under the laws of the United States or of any State, which holds a certificate of authority from the Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety on Federal bonds, unless requested to do so, need not transmit to the Office with its application copies of such financial reports as are on file in the Department of the Treasury. The acceptance by that Department of such a company will be considered by the Office in conjunction with the application of such

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company, provided there has been compliance with the other requirements of the regulations in this part.

### **§ 703.104 Applicants currently authorized to write insurance under the extensions of the LHWCA.**

Any applicant currently authorized by the Office to write insurance under any extension of the LHWCA need not support its application under the LHWCA or any other LHWCA extension with the evidence required by the regulations in this part, except the form of policy and endorsement which it proposes to use, unless specifically requested by the Office, but instead its application may refer to the fact that it has been so authorized.

### **§ 703.105 Copies of forms of policies to be submitted with application.**

With each application for authority to write insurance there shall be submitted for the approval of the Office copies of the forms of policies which the applicant proposes to issue in writing insurance under the LHWCA, or its extensions, to which shall be attached the appropriate endorsement to be used in connection therewith.

### **§ 703.106 Certificate of authority to write insurance.**

No corporation, company, association, person, or fund shall write insurance under this Act without first having received from the OWCP a certificate of authority to write such insurance. Any such certificate issued by the Office, after application therefor in accordance with these regulations, may authorize the applicant to write such insurance in a limited territory as determined by the Office. Any such certificate may be suspended or revoked by the Office prior to its expiration for good cause shown, but no suspension or revocation shall affect the liability of any carrier already incurred. Good cause shall include, without limitation, the failure to maintain in such limited territory a regular business office with full authority to act on all matters falling within the Act, and the failure to promptly and properly perform the carrier's responsibilities under the Act and these regulations, with special emphasis upon lack of promptness in

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making payments when due, upon failure to furnish appropriate medical care, and upon attempts to offer to, or urge upon, claimants inequitable settlements. A hearing may be requested by the aggrieved party and shall be held before the Director or his representative prior to the taking of any adverse action under this section.

### **§ 703.108 Period of authority to write insurance.**

Effective with the end of the authorization period July 1, 1983, through June 30, 1984, annual reauthorization of authority to write insurance coverage under the Act is no longer necessary. Beginning July 1, 1984, and thereafter, newly issued Certificates of Authority will show no expiration date. Certificates of Authority will remain in force for so long as the carrier complies with the requirements of the OWCP.

[50 FR 406, Jan. 3, 1985]

### **§ 703.109 Longshoremen's endorsement; see succeeding parts for endorsements for extensions.**

(a) The following form of endorsement application to the standard workmen's compensation and employer's liability policy, shall be used, if required by the OWCP, with the form of policy approved by the Office for use by an authorized carrier:

For attachment to Policy No. \_\_\_\_.

The obligations of the policy include the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, 33 U.S.C. 901 *et seq.*, and all laws amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto which may be or become effective while this policy is in force.

The company will be subject to the provisions of 33 U.S.C. 935. Insolvency or bankruptcy of the employer and/or discharge therein shall not relieve the company from payment of compensation and other benefits lawfully due for disability or death sustained by an employee during the life of the policy.

The company agrees to abide by all the provisions of this Act, and all lawful rules, regulations, orders, and decisions of the Office of Workmen's Compensation Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, unless and until set aside, modified, or reversed by appropriate appellate authority as provided for by said Act.

This endorsement shall not be cancelled prior to the date specified in this policy for its expiration until at least 30 days have elapsed after a notice of cancellation has

been sent to the District Director and to this employer.

All terms, conditions, requirements, and obligations, expressed in this policy or in any other endorsement attached thereto which are not inconsistent with or inapplicable to the provisions of this endorsement are hereby made a part of this endorsement as fully and completely as if wholly written herein.

**§ 703.110 Other forms of endorsements and policies.**

Where the form of endorsement prescribed by § 703.109 is not appropriate when used in conjunction with a form of policy approved for use by the Office no modification thereof shall be used unless specifically approved by the Office. Where the form of policy is designed to include therein the obligations of the insurer under said Act without the use of the appropriate endorsements, the policy shall contain the provisions required to be included in any of the endorsements. Such a policy, however, shall not be used until expressly approved by the Office.

**§ 703.111 Submission of new forms of policies for approval; other endorsements.**

No new forms of policies or modification of existing forms of policies shall be used by an insurer authorized by the Office under the regulations in this part to write insurance under said Act except after submission to and approval by the Office. No endorsement altering any provisions of a policy approved by the Office shall be used except after submission to and approval by the Office.

**§ 703.112 Terms of policies.**

A policy or contract of insurance shall be issued for the term of not less than 1 year from the date that it becomes effective, but if such insurance be not needed except for a particular contract or operation, the term of the policy may be limited to the period of such contract or operation.

**§ 703.113 Marine insurance contracts.**

A longshoremen's policy, or the longshoremen's endorsement provided for by § 703.109 for attachment to a marine policy, may specify the particular vessel or vessels in respect of which the

policy applies and the address of the employer at the home port thereof. The report of the issuance of a policy or endorsement required by § 703.116 must be made to DLHWC and must show the name and address of the owner as well as the name or names of such vessel or vessels.

[80 FR 12933, Mar. 12, 2015]

**§ 703.114 Notice of cancellation.**

Cancellation of a contract or policy of insurance issued under authority of the Act will not become effective otherwise than as provided by 33 U.S.C. 936(b); 30 days before such cancellation is intended to be effective, notice of a proposed cancellation must be given to the district director and the employer in accordance with the provisions of 33 U.S.C. 912(c). The notice requirements of 33 U.S.C. 912(c) will be considered met when:

(a) Notice to the district director is given by a method specified in § 702.101(a) of this chapter or in the same manner that reports of issuance of policies and endorsements are reported under § 703.116; and

(b) Notice to the employer is given by a method specified in § 702.101(b) of this chapter.

[80 FR 12933, Mar. 12, 2015]

**§ 703.115 Discharge by the carrier of obligations and duties of employer.**

Every obligation and duty in respect of payment of compensation, the providing of medical and other treatment and care, the payment or furnishing of any other benefit required by said Act and in respect of the carrying out of the administrative procedure required or imposed by said Act or the regulations in this part upon an employer shall be discharged and carried out by the carrier except that the prescribed report of injury or death shall be sent by the employer to the district director and to the insurance carrier as required by 33 U.S.C. 930. Such carrier shall be jointly responsible with the employer for the submission of all reports, notices, forms, and other administrative papers required by the district director or the Office in the administration of said Act to be submitted by the employer, but any form

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or paper so submitted where required therein shall contain in addition to the name and address of the carrier, the full name and address of the employer on whose behalf it is submitted. Notice to or knowledge of an employer of the occurrence of the injury or death shall be notice to or knowledge of such carrier. Jurisdiction of the employer by a district director, the Office, or appropriate appellate authority under said Act shall be jurisdiction of such carrier. Any requirement under any compensation order, finding, or decision shall be binding upon such carrier in the same manner and to the same extent as upon the employer.

### § 703.116 Report by carrier of issuance of policy or endorsement.

Each carrier must report to DLHWC each policy and endorsement issued by it to an employer whose employees are engaging in work subject to the Act and its extensions. Such reports must be made in a manner prescribed by OWCP. Reports made to an OWCP-authorized intermediary, such as an industry data collection organization, satisfy this reporting requirement.

[80 FR 12933, Mar. 12, 2015]

### § 703.117 Report; by whom sent.

The report of issuance of a policy and endorsement provided for in § 703.116 or notice of cancellation provided for in § 703.114 must be sent by the home office of the carrier, except that any carrier may authorize its agency or agencies in any compensation district to make such reports, provided the carrier notifies DLHWC of the agencies so duly authorized.

[80 FR 12933, Mar. 12, 2015]

### § 703.118 Agreement to be bound by report.

Every applicant for the authority to write insurance under the provisions of this Act, will be deemed to have included in its application an agreement that the acceptance by DLHWC of a report of insurance, as provided for by § 703.116, binds the carrier to full liability for the obligations under this Act of the employer named in said report, and every certificate of authority to write insurance under this Act will be

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deemed to have been issued by the Office upon consideration of the carrier's agreement to become so bound. It will be no defense to this agreement that the carrier failed or delayed to issue the policy to the employer covered by this report.

[80 FR 12933, Mar. 12, 2015]

### § 703.119 [Reserved]

### § 703.120 Name of one employer only in each report.

For policies that are reported to DLHWC on Form LS-570 (Carrier's Report of Issuance of Policy), a separate report of the issuance of a policy and endorsement, provided for by § 703.116, must be made for each employer covered by a policy. If a policy is issued insuring more than one employer, a separate form LS-570 for each employer so covered must be sent to DLHWC in the manner described in § 703.116, with the name of only one employer on each form.

[80 FR 12933, Mar. 12, 2015]

## Subpart C—Insurance Carrier Security Deposit Requirements

SOURCE: 70 FR 43234, July 26, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

### § 703.201 Deposits of security by insurance carriers.

The regulations in this subpart require certain insurance carriers to deposit security in the form of indemnity bonds, letters of credit or negotiable securities (chosen at the option of the carrier) of a kind and in an amount determined by the Office, and prescribe the conditions under which deposits must be made. Security deposits secure the payment of compensation and medical benefits when an insurance carrier defaults on any of its obligations under the LHWCA, regardless of the date such obligations arose. They also secure the payment of compensation and medical benefits when a carrier becomes insolvent and such obligations are not otherwise fully secured by a State guaranty fund. Any gap in State guaranty fund coverage will have a direct effect on the amount of security the Office will require a carrier to post.

As used in this subpart, the terms “obligations under the Act” and “LHWCA obligations” mean a carrier’s liability for compensation payments and medical benefits arising under the Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act and any of its extensions.

**§ 703.202 Identification of significant gaps in State guaranty fund coverage for LHWCA obligations.**

(a) In determining the amount of a carrier’s required security deposit, the Office will consider the extent to which a State guaranty fund secures the insurance carrier’s LHWCA obligations in that State. When evaluating State guaranty funds, the Office may consider a number of factors including, but not limited to—

- (1) Limits on weekly benefit amounts;
- (2) Limits on aggregate maximum benefit amounts;
- (3) Time limits on coverage;
- (4) Ocean marine exclusions;
- (5) Employer size and viability provisions; and
- (6) Financial strength of the State guaranty fund itself.

(b) OWCP will identify States without guaranty funds and States with guaranty funds that do not fully and immediately secure LHWCA obligations and will post its findings on the Internet at <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/dlhwc>. These findings will indicate the extent of any partial or total gap in coverage provided by a State guaranty fund, and they will be open for inspection and comment by all interested parties. If the extent of coverage a particular State guaranty fund provides either cannot be determined or is ambiguous, OWCP will deem one third (33⅓ percent) of a carrier’s LHWCA obligations in that State to be unsecured. OWCP will revise its findings from time to time, in response to substantiated public comments it receives or for any other reasons it considers relevant.

[70 FR 43234, July 26, 2005, as amended at 77 FR 37286, June 21, 2012]

**§ 703.203 Application for security deposit determination; information to be submitted; other requirements.**

(a) Each insurance carrier authorized by OWCP to write insurance under the LHWCA or any of its extensions, and each insurance carrier seeking initial authorization to write such insurance, must apply annually, on a schedule set by OWCP, for a determination of the extent of its unsecured obligations and the security deposit required. The application must be addressed to the Branch of Financial Management and Insurance (Branch) within OWCP’s Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation, and be made on a form provided by OWCP. The application must contain the following:

(1) Any carrier seeking an exemption from the security deposit requirements based on its financial standing (see § 703.204(c)(1)) must submit documentation establishing the carrier’s current rating and its rating for the immediately preceding year from each insurance rating service designated by the Branch and posted on the Internet at <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/dlhwc>.

(2) All other carriers, and any carrier whose exemption request under paragraph (a)(1) of this section has been denied, must provide—

(i) A statement of the carrier’s outstanding liabilities under the LHWCA or any of its extensions for its LHWCA obligations for each State in which the obligations arise; and

(ii) Any other information the Branch requests to enable it to give the application adequate consideration including, but not limited to, the reports set forth at § 703.212.

(b) If the carrier disagrees with any of OWCP’s findings regarding State guaranty funds made under § 703.202(b) as they exist when it submits its application, the carrier may submit a statement of its unsecured obligations based on a different conclusion regarding the extent of coverage afforded by one or more State guaranty funds. The carrier must submit evidence and/or argument with its application sufficient to establish that such conclusion is correct.

(c) The carrier must sign and swear to the application. If the carrier is not an individual, the carrier’s duly authorized officer must sign and swear to

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the application and list his or her official designation. If the carrier is a corporation, the officer must also affix the corporate seal.

(d) At any time after filing an application, the carrier must inform the Branch immediately of any material changes that may have rendered its application incomplete, inaccurate or misleading.

(e) By filing an application, the carrier consents to be bound by and to comply with the regulations and requirements in this part.

[70 FR 43234, July 26, 2005, as amended at 77 FR 37286, June 21, 2012]

### **§ 703.204 Decision on insurance carrier's application; minimum amount of deposit.**

(a) The Branch will issue a decision on the application determining the extent of an insurance carrier's unsecured LHWCA obligations and fixing the amount of security the carrier must deposit to fully secure payment of its unsecured obligations. The Branch will transmit its decision to the applicant in a way it considers appropriate.

(b) The Branch may consider a number of factors in setting the security deposit amount including, but not limited to, the—

(1) Financial strength of the carrier as determined by private insurance rating organizations;

(2) Financial strength of the carrier's insureds in the Longshore industry;

(3) Extent to which State guaranty funds secure the carrier's LHWCA obligations in the event the carrier defaults on its obligations or becomes insolvent;

(4) Carrier's longevity in writing LHWCA or other workers' compensation coverage;

(5) Extent of carrier's exposure for LHWCA coverage; and

(6) Carrier's payment history in satisfying its LHWCA obligations.

(c) In setting the security deposit amount, the Branch will follow these criteria:

(1) Carriers who hold the highest rating awarded by each of the three insurance rating services designated by the Branch and posted on the Internet at <http://www.dol.gov/owcp/dlhwca> for both

the current rating year and the immediately preceding year will not be required to deposit security.

(2) Carriers whose LHWCA obligations are fully secured by one or more State guaranty funds, as evaluated by OWCP under § 703.202 of this subpart, will not be required to deposit security.

(3) The Branch will require all carriers not meeting the requirements of paragraphs (c)(1) or (2) of this section to deposit security for their LHWCA obligations not secured by a State guaranty fund, as evaluated by OWCP under § 703.202 of this subpart. For carriers that write only an insignificant or incidental amount of LHWCA insurance, the Branch will require a deposit in an amount determined by the Branch from time to time. For all other carriers, the Branch will require a minimum deposit of one third (33⅓ percent) of a carrier's outstanding LHWCA obligations not secured by a State guaranty fund, but may require a deposit up to an amount equal to the carrier's total outstanding LHWCA obligations (100 percent) not secured by a State guaranty fund.

(d) If a carrier believes that a lesser deposit would fully secure its LHWCA obligations, the carrier may request a hearing before the Director of the Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (Longshore Director) or the Longshore Director's representative. Requests for hearing must be in writing and sent to the Branch within 10 days of the date of the Branch's decision. The carrier may submit new evidence and/or argument in support of its challenge to the Branch's decision and must provide any additional documentation OWCP requests. The Longshore Director or his representative will notify the carrier of the hearing date within 10 days of receiving the request. The Longshore Director or his representative will issue the final agency decision on the application within 60 days of the hearing date, or, where evidence is submitted after the hearing, within 60 days of the receipt of such evidence, but no later than 180 days after receiving the carrier's request for a hearing.

[70 FR 43234, July 26, 2005, as amended at 77 FR 37286, June 21, 2012]



**§ 703.205 Filing of Agreement and Undertaking; deposit of security.**

Within 45 days of the date on which the insurance carrier receives the Branch's decision (or, if the carrier requests a hearing, a period set by the Longshore Director or the Longshore Director's representative) determining the extent of its unsecured LHWCA obligations and fixing the required security deposit amount (*see* § 703.204), the carrier must:

(a) Execute and file with the Branch an Agreement and Undertaking, in a form prescribed and provided by OWCP, in which the carrier shall agree to—

(1) Deposit with the Branch indemnity bonds or letters of credit in the amount fixed by the Office, or deposit negotiable securities under §§ 703.207 and 703.208 in that amount;

(2) Authorize the Branch, at its discretion, to bring suit under any deposited indemnity bond or to draw upon any deposited letters of credit, as appropriate under the terms of the security instrument, or to collect the interest and principal as they become due on any deposited negotiable securities and to sell or otherwise liquidate such negotiable securities or any part thereof when—

(i) The carrier defaults on any of its LHWCA obligations;

(ii) The carrier fails to renew any deposited letter of credit or substitute a new letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in its place;

(iii) The carrier fails to renew any deposited negotiable securities at maturity or substitute a letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in their place;

(iv) State insolvency proceedings are initiated against the carrier; or

(v) The carrier fails to comply with any of the terms of the Agreement and Undertaking; and

(3) Authorize the Branch, at its discretion, to pay such ongoing claims of the carrier as it may find to be due and payable from the proceeds of the deposited security;

(b) Give security in the amount fixed in the Office's decision:

(1) In the form of an indemnity bond with sureties satisfactory to the Branch and in such form, and con-

taining such provisions, as the Branch may prescribe: *Provided*, That only surety companies approved by the United States Treasury Department under the laws of the United States and the rules and regulations governing bonding companies may act as sureties on such indemnity bonds (*see* Department of Treasury's Circular-570), and that a surety company that is a corporate subsidiary of an insurance carrier may not act as surety on such carrier's indemnity bond;

(2) In the form of letters of credit issued by a financial institution satisfactory to the Branch and upon which the Branch may draw; or

(3) By a deposit of negotiable securities with a Federal Reserve Bank or the Treasurer of the United States in compliance with §§ 703.207 and 703.208.

**§ 703.206 [Reserved]****§ 703.207 Kinds of negotiable securities that may be deposited; conditions of deposit; acceptance of deposits.**

An insurance carrier electing to deposit negotiable securities to secure its obligations under the Act in the amount fixed by the Office under the regulations in this part shall deposit any negotiable securities acceptable as security for the deposit of public monies of the United States under regulations issued by the Secretary of the Treasury. (*See* 31 CFR part 225.) The approval, valuation, acceptance, and custody of such securities is hereby committed to the several Federal Reserve Banks and the Treasurer of the United States.

**§ 703.208 Deposits of negotiable securities with Federal Reserve banks or the Treasurer of the United States; interest thereon.**

Deposits of negotiable securities provided for by the regulations in this part must be made with any Federal Reserve bank or any branch of a Federal Reserve bank designated by the Branch, or the Treasurer of the United States, and must be held subject to the order of the Branch. The Branch will authorize the insurance carrier to collect interest on the securities it deposits unless any of the conditions set forth at § 703.211(a) occur.

**§ 703.209 Substitution and withdrawal of indemnity bond, letters of credit or negotiable securities.**

(a) A carrier may not substitute other security for any indemnity bond or letters of credit deposited under the regulations in this part except when authorized by the Branch. A carrier may, however, substitute negotiable securities acceptable under the regulations in this part for previously-deposited negotiable securities without the Branch's prior approval.

(b) A carrier that has ceased to write insurance under the Act may apply to the Branch for withdrawal of its security deposit. The carrier must file with its application a sworn statement setting forth—

(1) A list of all cases in each State in which the carrier is paying compensation, together with the names of the employees and other beneficiaries, a description of causes of injury or death, and a statement of the amount of compensation paid;

(2) A similar list of all pending cases in which the carrier has not yet paid compensation; and

(3) A similar list of all cases in which injury or death has occurred within one year before such application or in which the last payment of compensation was made within one year before such application.

(c) The Branch may authorize withdrawal of previously-deposited indemnity bonds, letters of credit and negotiable securities that, in the opinion of the Branch, are not necessary to provide adequate security for the payment of the carrier's outstanding and potential LHWCA liabilities. No withdrawals will be authorized unless there has been no claim activity involving the carrier for a minimum of five years, and the Branch is reasonably certain that no further claims will arise.

**§ 703.210 Increase or reduction in security deposit amount.**

(a) Whenever the Office considers the security deposited by an insurance carrier insufficient to fully secure the carrier's LHWCA obligations, the carrier must, upon demand by the Branch, deposit additional security in accordance with the regulations in this part in an amount fixed by the Branch. The

Branch will issue its decision requiring additional security in accordance with § 703.204, and the procedures set forth at §§ 703.204(d) and 703.205 for requesting a hearing and complying with the Office's decision will apply as appropriate.

(b) The Branch may reduce the required security at any time on its own initiative, or upon application of a carrier, when in the Branch's opinion the facts warrant a reduction. A carrier seeking a reduction must furnish any information the Office requests regarding its outstanding LHWCA obligations for any State in which it does business, its obligations not secured by a State guaranty fund in each of these States, and any other evidence as the Branch considers necessary.

**§ 703.211 Authority to seize security deposit; use and/or return of proceeds.**

(a) The Office may take any of the actions set forth in paragraph (b) of this section when an insurance carrier—

(1) Defaults on any of its LHWCA obligations;

(2) Fails to renew any deposited letter of credit or substitute a new letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in its place;

(3) Fails to renew any deposited negotiable securities at maturity or substitute a letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in their place;

(4) Has State insolvency proceedings initiated against it; or

(5) Fails to comply with any of the terms of the Agreement and Undertaking.

(b) When any of the conditions set forth in paragraph (a) of this section occur, the Office may, within its discretion and as appropriate to the security instrument—

(1) Bring suit under any indemnity bond;

(2) Draw upon any letters of credit;

(3) Seize any negotiable securities, collect the interest and principal as they may become due, and sell or otherwise liquidate the negotiable securities or any part thereof.

(c) When the Office, within its discretion, determines that it no longer

needs to collect the interest and principal of any negotiable securities seized pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, or to retain the proceeds of their sale, it must return any of the carrier's negotiable securities still in its possession and any remaining proceeds of their sale.

**§ 703.212 Required reports; examination of insurance carrier accounts.**

(a) Upon the Office's request, each insurance carrier must submit the following reports:

(1) A certified financial statement of the carrier's assets and liabilities, or a balance sheet.

(2) A sworn statement showing the extent of the carrier's unsecured LHWCA obligations for each State in which it is authorized to write insurance under the LHWCA or any of its extensions.

(3) A sworn statement reporting the carrier's open cases as of the date of such report, listing by State all death and injury cases, together with a report of the status of all outstanding claims.

(b) Whenever it considers necessary, the Office may inspect or examine a carrier's books of account, records, and other papers to verify any financial statement or other information the carrier furnished to the Office in any statement or report required by this section, or any other section of the regulations in this part. The carrier must permit the Office or its duly authorized representative to make the inspection or examination. Alternatively, the Office may accept an adequate independent audit by a certified public accountant.

**§ 703.213 Failure to comply.**

The Office may suspend or revoke a carrier's certificate of authority to write LHWCA insurance under § 703.106 when the carrier fails to comply with any of the requirements of this part.

**Subpart D—Authorization of Self-Insurers**

SOURCE: 70 FR 43234, July 26, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

**§ 703.301 Employers who may be authorized as self-insurers.**

The regulations in this subpart set forth procedures for authorizing employers to self-insure the payment of compensation under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, or its extensions. The Office may authorize any employer to self-insure who, pursuant to the regulations in this part, furnishes to the Office satisfactory proof of its ability to pay compensation directly, and who agrees to immediately cancel any existing insurance policy covering its Longshore obligations (except for excess or catastrophic workers' compensation insurance, *see* §§ 703.302(a)(6), 703.304(a)(6)) when OWCP approves the employer's application to be self-insured. The regulations require self-insurers to deposit security in the form of an indemnity bond, letters of credit or negotiable securities (at the option of the employer) of a kind and in an amount determined by the Office, and prescribe the conditions under which such deposits shall be made. The term "self-insurer" as used in these regulations means any employer securing the payment of compensation under the LHWCA or its extensions in accordance with the provisions of 33 U.S.C. 932(a)(2) and these regulations.

**§ 703.302 Application for authority to become a self-insurer; how filed; information to be submitted; other requirements.**

(a) Any employer may apply to become an authorized self-insurer. The application must be addressed to the Branch of Financial Management and Insurance (Branch) within OWCP's Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation, and be made on a form provided by OWCP. The application must contain—

(1) A statement of the employer's total payroll for the 12 months before the application date;

(2) A statement of the average number of employees engaged in employment within the purview of the LHWCA or any of its extensions for the 12 months before the application date;

(3) A statement of the number of injuries to such employees resulting in

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disability of more than 7 days' duration, or in death, during each of the 5 years before the application date;

(4) A certified financial report for each of the three years before the application date;

(5) A description of the facilities maintained or the arrangements made for the medical and hospital care of injured employees;

(6) A statement describing the provisions and maximum amount of any excess or catastrophic insurance; and

(7) Any other information the Branch requests to enable it to give the application adequate consideration including, but not limited to, the reports set forth at § 703.310.

(b) The employer must sign and swear to the application. If the employer is not an individual, the employer's duly authorized officer must sign and swear to the application and list his or her official designation. If the employer is a corporation, the officer must also affix the corporate seal.

(c) At any time after filing an application, the employer must inform the Branch immediately of any material changes that may have rendered its application incomplete, inaccurate or misleading.

(d) By filing an application, the employer consents to be bound by and to comply with the regulations and requirements in this part.

#### **§ 703.303 Decision on employer's application.**

(a) The Branch will issue a decision granting or denying the employer's application to be an authorized self-insurer. If the Branch grants the application, the decision will fix the amount of security the employer must deposit. The Branch will transmit its decision to the employer in a way it considers appropriate.

(b) The employer is authorized to self-insure beginning with the date of the Branch's decision. Each grant of authority to self-insure is conditioned, however, upon the employer's execution and filing of an Agreement and Undertaking and deposit of the security fixed in the decision in the form and within the time limits required by § 703.304. In the event the employer fails to comply with the requirements set

forth in § 703.304, its authorization to self-insure will be considered never to have been effective, and the employer will be subject to appropriate penalties for failure to secure its LHWCA obligations.

(c) The Branch will require security in the amount it considers necessary to fully secure the employer's LHWCA obligations. When fixing the amount of security, the Branch may consider a number of factors including, but not limited to, the—

(1) Employer's overall financial standing;

(2) Nature of the employer's work;

(3) Hazard of the work in which the employees are employed;

(4) Employer's payroll amount for employees engaged in employment within the purview of the Act; and

(5) Employer's accident record as shown in the application and the Office's records.

(d) If an employer believes that the Branch incorrectly denied its application to self-insure, or that a lesser security deposit would fully secure its LHWCA obligations, the employer may request a hearing before the Director of the Division of Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation (Longshore Director) or the Longshore Director's representative. Requests for hearing must be in writing and sent to the Branch within ten days of the date of the Branch's decision. The employer may submit new evidence and/or argument in support of its challenge to the Branch's decision and must provide any additional documentation OWCP requests. The Longshore Director or his representative will notify the employer of the hearing date within 10 days of receiving the request. The Longshore Director or his representative will issue the final agency decision on the application within 60 days of the hearing date, or, where evidence is submitted after the hearing, within 60 days of the receipt of such evidence, but no later than 180 days after receiving the employer's request for a hearing.

**§ 703.304 Filing of Agreement and Undertaking; deposit of security.**

Within 45 days of the date on which the employer receives the Branch's decision (or, if the employer requests a hearing, a period set by the Longshore Director or the Longshore Director's representative) granting its application to self-insure and fixing the required security deposit amount (see § 703.303), the employer must:

(a) Execute and file with the Branch an Agreement and Undertaking, in a form prescribed and provided by OWCP, in which the employer shall agree to:

(1) Pay when due, as required by the provisions of the Act, all compensation payable on account of injury or death of any of its employees injured within the purview of the Act;

(2) Furnish medical, surgical, hospital, and other attendance, treatment and care as required by the Act;

(3) Deposit with the Branch indemnity bonds or letters of credit in the amount fixed by the Office, or deposit negotiable securities under §§ 703.306 and 703.307 in that amount;

(4) Authorize the Branch, at its discretion, to bring suit under any deposited indemnity bond or to draw upon any deposited letters of credit, as appropriate under the terms of the security instrument, or to collect the interest and principal as they become due on any deposited negotiable securities and to seize and sell or otherwise liquidate such negotiable securities or any part thereof when the employer:

(i) Defaults on any of its LHWCA obligations;

(ii) Fails to renew any deposited letter of credit or substitute a new letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in its place;

(iii) Fails to renew any deposited negotiable securities at maturity or substitute a letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in their place; or

(iv) Fails to comply with any of the terms of the Agreement and Undertaking;

(5) Authorize the Branch, at its discretion, to pay such compensation, medical, and other expenses and any accrued penalties imposed by law as it may find to be due and payable from

the proceeds of the deposited security; and

(6) Obtain and maintain, if required by the Office, excess or catastrophic insurance in amounts to be determined by the Office.

(b) Give security in the amount fixed in the Office's decision:

(1) In the form of an indemnity bond with sureties satisfactory to the Office, and in such form and containing such provisions as the Office may prescribe: *Provided*, That only surety companies approved by the United States Treasury Department under the laws of the United States and the rules and regulations governing bonding companies may act as sureties on such indemnity bonds (see Department of Treasury's Circular-570);

(2) In the form of letters of credit issued by a financial institution satisfactory to the Branch and upon which the Branch may draw; or,

(3) By a deposit of negotiable securities with a Federal Reserve Bank or the Treasurer of the United States in compliance with §§ 703.306 and 703.307.

**§ 703.305 [Reserved]****§ 703.306 Kinds of negotiable securities that may be deposited; conditions of deposit; acceptance of deposits.**

A self-insurer or a self-insurer applicant electing to deposit negotiable securities to secure its obligations under the Act in the amount fixed by the Office under the regulations in this part shall deposit any negotiable securities acceptable as security for the deposit of public monies of the United States under regulations issued by the Secretary of the Treasury. (See 31 CFR part 225.) The approval, valuation, acceptance, and custody of such securities is hereby committed to the several Federal Reserve Banks and the Treasurer of the United States.

**§ 703.307 Deposits of negotiable securities with Federal Reserve banks or the Treasurer of the United States; interest thereon.**

Deposits of negotiable securities provided for by the regulations in this part shall be made with any Federal Reserve bank or any branch of a Federal Reserve bank designated by the Office, or the Treasurer of the United

### **§ 703.308**

States, and shall be held subject to the order of the Office. The Office will authorize the self-insurer to collect interest on the securities deposited by it unless any of the conditions set forth at § 703.304(a)(4) occur.

### **§ 703.308 Substitution and withdrawal of indemnity bond, letters of credit or negotiable securities.**

(a) A self-insurer may not substitute other security for any indemnity bond or letters of credit deposited under the regulations in this part except when authorized by the Office. A self-insurer may, however, substitute negotiable securities acceptable under the regulations in this part for previously-deposited negotiable securities without the Office's prior approval.

(b) A self-insurer discontinuing business, discontinuing operations within the purview of the Act, or securing the payment of compensation by commercial insurance under the provisions of the Act may apply to the Office for the withdrawal of the security it provided under the regulations in this part. The self-insurer must file with its application a sworn statement setting forth—

(1) A list of all cases in each compensation district in which the self-insurer is paying compensation, together with the names of the employees and other beneficiaries, a description of causes of injury or death, and a statement of the amount of compensation paid;

(2) A similar list of all pending cases in which the self-insurer has not yet paid compensation; and

(3) A similar list of all cases in which injury or death has occurred within one year before such application or in which the last payment of compensation was made within one year before such application.

(c) The Office may authorize withdrawal of previously-deposited indemnity bonds, letters of credit and negotiable securities that, in the opinion of the Office, are not necessary to provide adequate security for the payment of the self-insurer's outstanding and potential LHWCA obligations. No withdrawals will be authorized unless there has been no claim activity involving the self-insurer for a minimum of five

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years, and the Office is reasonably certain no further claims will arise.

### **§ 703.309 Increase or reduction in the amount of indemnity bond, letters of credit or negotiable securities.**

(a) Whenever the Office considers the principal sum of the indemnity bond or letters of credit filed or the amount of the negotiable securities deposited by a self-insurer insufficient to fully secure the self-insurer's LHWCA obligations, the self-insurer must, upon demand by the Office, deposit additional security in accordance with the regulations in this part in an amount fixed by the Branch. The Branch will issue its decision requiring additional security in accordance with § 703.303, and the procedures set forth at §§ 703.303(d) and 703.304 for requesting a hearing and complying with the Office's decision will apply as appropriate.

(b) The Office may reduce the required security at any time on its own initiative, or upon application of a self-insurer, when in the Office's opinion the facts warrant a reduction. A self-insurer seeking a reduction must furnish any information the Office requests regarding its current affairs, the nature and hazard of the work of its employees, the amount of its payroll for employees engaged in maritime employment within the purview of the Act, its financial condition, its accident experience, a record of compensation payments it has made, and any other evidence the Branch considers necessary.

### **§ 703.310 Authority to seize security deposit; use and/or return of proceeds.**

(a) The Office may take any of the actions set forth in paragraph (b) of this section when a self-insurer—

(1) Defaults on any of its LHWCA obligations;

(2) Fails to renew any deposited letter of credit or substitute a new letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in its place;

(3) Fails to renew any deposited negotiable securities at maturity or substitute a letter of credit, indemnity bond or acceptable negotiable securities in their place; or

(4) Fails to comply with any of the terms of the Agreement and Undertaking.

(b) When any of the conditions set forth in paragraph (a) of this section occur, the Office may, within its discretion and as appropriate to the security instrument—

(1) Bring suit under any indemnity bond;

(2) Draw upon any letters of credit;

(3) Seize any negotiable securities, collect the interest and principal as they may become due, and sell or otherwise liquidate the negotiable securities or any part thereof.

(c) When the Office, within its discretion, determines that it no longer needs to collect the interest and principal of any negotiable securities seized pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, or to retain the proceeds of their sale, it must return any of the employer's negotiable securities still in its possession and any remaining proceeds of their sale.

**§ 703.311 Required reports; examination of self-insurer accounts.**

(a) Upon the Office's request, each self-insurer must submit the following reports:

(1) A certified financial statement of the self-insurer's assets and liabilities, or a balance sheet.

(2) A sworn statement showing by classifications the payroll of employees of the self-insurer who are engaged in employment within the purview of the LHWCA or any of its extensions.

(3) A sworn statement covering the six-month period preceding the date of such report, listing by compensation districts all death and injury cases which have occurred during such period, together with a report of the status of all outstanding claims showing the particulars of each case.

(b) Whenever it considers necessary, the Office may inspect or examine a self-insurer's books of account, records, and other papers to verify any financial statement or other information the self-insurer furnished to the Office in any report required by this section, or any other section of the regulations in this part. The self-insurer must permit the Office or its duly authorized representative to make the inspection

or examination. Alternatively, the Office may accept an adequate report of a certified public accountant.

**§ 703.312 Period of authorization as self-insurer.**

(a) Self-insurance authorizations will remain in effect for so long as the self-insurer complies with the requirements of the Act, the regulations in this part, and OWCP.

(b) A self-insurer who has secured its liability by depositing an indemnity bond with the Office will, on or about May 10 of each year, receive from the Office a form for executing a bond that will continue its self-insurance authorization. The submission of such bond, duly executed in the amount indicated by the Office, will be deemed a condition of the continuing authorization.

**§ 703.313 Revocation of authorization to self-insure.**

The Office may for good cause shown suspend or revoke the authorization of any self-insurer. Failure by a self-insurer to comply with any provision or requirement of law or of the regulations in this part, or with any lawful order or communication of the Office, or the failure or insolvency of the surety on its indemnity bond, or impairment of financial responsibility of such self-insurer, shall be deemed good cause for suspension or revocation.

**Subpart E—Issuance of Certificates of Compliance**

**§ 703.501 Issuance of certificates of compliance.**

Every employer who has secured the payment of compensation as required by 33 U.S.C. 932 and by the regulations in this part may request a certificate from the district director in the compensation district in which he has operations, and for which a certificate is required by 33 U.S.C. 937, showing that such employer has secured the payment of compensation. Only one such certificate will be issued to an employer in a compensation district, and it will be valid only during the period for which such employer has secured such payment. An employer so desiring may have photocopies of such a certificate made for use in different places

## § 703.502

within the compensation district. Two forms of such certificates have been provided by the Office, one form for use where the employer has obtained insurance generally under these regulations, and one for use where the employer has been authorized as a self-insurer.

## § 703.502 [Reserved]

## § 703.503 Return of certificates of compliance.

Upon the termination by expiration, cancellation or otherwise, of a policy of insurance issued under the provisions of law and these regulations, or the revocation or termination of the privilege of self-insurance granted by the Office, all certificates of compliance issued on the basis of such insurance or self-insurance shall be void and shall be returned by the employer to the district director issuing them with a statement of the reason for such return. An employer holding certificate of compliance under an insurance policy which has expired, pending renewal of such insurance need not return such certificate of compliance if such expired insurance is promptly replaced. An employer who has secured renewal of insurance upon the expiration of policy under said Act or whose self-insurance thereunder is reauthorized without a break in the continuity thereof need not return an expired certificate of compliance.

## PART 704—SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR LHWCA EXTENSIONS

Sec.

704.001 Extensions covered by this part.

704.002 Scope of part.

### DEFENSE BASE ACT

704.101 Administration; compensation districts.

704.102 Commutation of payments to aliens and nonresidents.

704.103 Removal of certain minimums when computing or paying compensation.

704.151 DBA endorsement.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT

704.201 Administration; compensation districts.

704.251 DCCA endorsement.

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### OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF LANDS ACT

704.301 Administration; compensation districts.

704.351 OCSLA endorsement.

### NONAPPROPRIATED FUND INSTRUMENTALITIES ACT

704.401 Administration; compensation districts.

704.451 NFIA endorsement.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; Reorg. Plan No. 6 of 1950, 15 FR 3174, 64 Stat. 1263; 33 U.S.C. 939; 36 D.C. Code 501 *et seq.*; 42 U.S.C. 1651 *et seq.*; 43 U.S.C. 1331; 5 U.S.C. 6171 *et seq.*; Secretary's Order 1-89; Employment Standards Order No. 90-02.

SOURCE: 38 FR 26877, Sept. 26, 1973, unless otherwise noted.

## § 704.001 Extensions covered by this part.

(a) Defense Base Act (DBA).

(b) District of Columbia Workmen's Compensation Act (DCCA).

(c) Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA).

(d) Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities Act (NFIA).

## § 704.002 Scope of part.

The regulations governing the administration of the LHWCA as set forth in parts 702 and 703 of this subchapter govern the administration of the LHWCA extensions (see § 704.001) in nearly every respect, and are not repeated in this part 704. Such special provisions as are necessary to the proper administration of each of the extensions are set forth in this part. To the extent of any inconsistency between regulations in parts 702 and 703 of this subchapter and those in this part, the latter supersedes those in parts 702 and 703 of this subchapter.

### DEFENSE BASE ACT

## § 704.101 Administration; compensation districts.

For the purpose of administration of this Act areas assigned to the compensation districts established for administration of the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act as set forth in part 702 of this subchapter shall be extended in the following manner to include:

(a) Canada, east of the 75th degree west longitude, Newfoundland, and