



State of Utah

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Insurance Department

TODD E. KISER
Insurance Commissioner

Bulletin 2015-1

To: All Property & Casualty Insurers Writing Commercial Lines Insurance Products

From: Todd E. Kiser, Utah Insurance Commissioner

Date: February 26, 2015

Subject: **Filing Procedures for Compliance with the Provisions of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015**

The purpose of this Bulletin is to advise you of certain provisions of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015, which amends and extends the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (the Act) by reauthorization and may require insurers to submit a filing in this state of disclosure notices, policy language, and applicable rates as a result of the Act. For further details related to the Act, please consult the Act itself.

Background

This Bulletin replaces Bulletin 2008-1, "Filing Procedures for Compliance with the Provisions of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007."

Uncertainty in the markets for commercial lines property and casualty insurance coverage arose following the substantial loss of lives and property experienced on September 11, 2001. Soon after these tragic events, many reinsurers announced that they would no longer provide coverage for acts of terrorism in future reinsurance contracts. This led to a concerted effort on behalf of all interested parties to seek a federal backstop to facilitate the ability of the insurance industry to continue to provide coverage for these unpredictable and potentially catastrophic events. As a result, Congress enacted and the President signed into law in November 2002, the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002. This federal law provided a federal backstop for defined acts of terrorism and imposed certain obligations on insurers. The Act was extended for a two-year period covering Program Years 2006 and 2007, and for an additional seven years through December 31, 2014 with the enactment of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007. The Act has now been extended again with the enactment of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015.

The reauthorized Act, as amended and extended, included several changes including:

- Extending the program through December 31, 2020.
- Fixing the Insurer Deductible at 20% of an insurer's direct earned premium of the preceding calendar year and the federal share of compensation at 85% of insured losses that exceed insurer deductibles until January 1, 2016, at which time the federal share shall decrease by 1 percentage point per calendar year until equal to 80%.

Please note: Agency hours are 8am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

- Requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to certify acts of terrorism in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security.
- Amending the program trigger to apply to certified acts with insured losses exceeding \$100 million for calendar year 2015, \$120 million for calendar year 2016, \$140 million for calendar year 2017, \$160 million for calendar year 2018, \$180 million for calendar year 2019, and \$200 million for calendar year 2020 and any calendar year thereafter.
- The mandatory recoupment of the federal share through policyholder surcharges increasing to 140 percent (from 133 percent).
- The insurance marketplace aggregate retention amount being the lesser of \$27.5 billion, increasing annually by \$2 billion until it equals \$37.5 billion and the aggregate amount of insured losses for the calendar year for all insurers. In the calendar year following the calendar year in which the marketplace retention amount equals \$37.5 billion, and beginning in calendar year 2020, it is revised to be the lesser of the annual average of the sum of insurer deductibles for all insurers participating in the Program for the prior three calendar years as such sum is determined by the Secretary of the Treasury by regulation.
- Requiring the Secretary of the Treasury, not later than nine months after the date of enactment of the Act, to conduct and complete a study on the certification process, including the establishment of a reasonable timetable by which the Secretary must make an accurate determination on whether to certify an act as an act of terrorism.
- Requiring insurers participating in the Program to submit to the Secretary of the Treasury for a Congressional report to be submitted on June 30, 2016 and every June 30 thereafter, information regarding insurance coverage for terrorism losses in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the Program. The information to be provided includes: lines of insurance with exposure to terrorism losses, premiums earned on coverage, geographical location of exposures, pricing of coverage, the take-up rate for coverage, the amount of private reinsurance for acts of terrorism purchased and such other matters as the Secretary considers appropriate. This information may be collected by a statistical aggregator and in coordination with State insurance regulatory authorities.
- Requiring the Comptroller General of the United States to complete a study on the viability and effects of the Federal Government assessing and collecting upfront premiums and creating a capital reserve fund.
- Requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a study not later than June 30, 2017 and every June 30 thereafter to identify competitive challenges small insurers face in the terrorism risk insurance marketplace.
- Requiring the Secretary of the Treasury to appoint an Advisory Committee on Risk-Sharing Mechanisms to provide advice, recommendations and encouragement with respect to the creation and development of nongovernmental risk-sharing mechanisms. The Advisory Committee will be composed of nine members who are directors, officers, or other employees of insurers, reinsurers or capital market participants.
- Changing the terms “program year” and “transition period” to “calendar year” throughout.

Definition of Act of Terrorism

Section 102(1) defines an act of terrorism for purposes of the Act. Please note that the unmodified reference to “the Secretary” refers to the Secretary of the Treasury. The revised Section 102(1)(A) states, “The term ‘act of terrorism’ means any act that is certified by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Attorney General of the United States—(i) to be an act of terrorism; (ii) to be a violent act or an act that is dangerous to—(I) human life; (II) property; or (III) infrastructure; (iii) to have resulted in damage within

the United States, or outside the United States in the case of—(I) an air carrier or vessel described in paragraph (5)(B); or (II) the premises of a United States mission; and (iv) to have been committed by an individual or individuals, as part of an effort to coerce the civilian population of the United States or to influence the policy or affect the conduct of the United States Government by coercion.” Section 102(1)(B) states, “No act shall be certified by the Secretary as an act of terrorism if—(i) the act is committed as part of the course of a war declared by the Congress, except that this clause shall not apply with respect to any coverage for workers’ compensation; or (ii) property and casualty insurance losses resulting from the act, in the aggregate, do not exceed \$5,000,000.” Section 102(1)(C) and (E) specify that the determinations are final and not subject to judicial review and that the Secretary of the Treasury cannot delegate the determination to anyone.

Submission of Rates Policy Form Language and Disclosure Notices

If an insurer relies on an advisory organization to file loss costs and related rating systems on its behalf, no rate filing is required unless an insurer plans to use a different loss cost multiplier than is currently on file for coverage for certified losses. Insurers that develop and file rates independently may choose to maintain their currently filed rates or submit a new filing. The rate filing should provide sufficient information for the reviewer to determine what price would be charged to a business seeking to cover certified losses. This state will accept filings that contain a specified percentage of premiums to provide for coverage for certified losses. Insurers may also choose to use rating plans that take into account other factors such as geography, building profile, proximity to target risks, and other reasonable rating factors. The insurer should state in the filing the basis that it has for selection of the rates and rating systems that it chooses to apply. The supporting documentation should be sufficient for the reviewer to determine whether the rates are excessive, inadequate or unfairly discriminatory.

This state will not allow exclusions of coverage for acts of terrorism that fail to be certified losses solely because they fall below the \$5 million threshold in Section 102(1)(B) on any policy that provides coverage for acts of terrorism that fail to be certified. Insurers required to file policy forms may submit language containing coverage limitations for certified losses that exceed \$100 billion in the aggregate.

Insurers subject to policy form regulation must submit the policy language that they intend to use in this state. The policy should define acts of terrorism in ways that are consistent with the Act, as amended, state law and the guidance provided in this Bulletin. The definitions, terms and conditions should be complete and accurately describe the coverage that will be provided in the policy. Insurers may conclude that current filings are in compliance with the Act, as amended, state law and the requirements of this Bulletin.

A change introduced in the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 was a disclosure requirement for any policy issued after the enactment of the Act. Specifically, in addition to other disclosure requirements previously contained in TRIA, insurers since 2007 have had to provide clear and conspicuous disclosure to the policyholder of the existence of the \$100 billion cap under Section 103(e)(2), at the time of offer, purchase, and renewal of the policy.

The Commissioner requests that the disclosure notices be filed for informational purposes, along with the policy forms, rates and rating systems as they are an integral part of the process for notification of policyholders in this state and should be clear and not misleading to business owners in this state. The disclosures should comply with the requirements of the Act, as amended, and should be consistent with the policy language and rates filed by the insurer.

If an insurer wants to take advantage of this voluntary speed to market initiative for revised terrorism products, it should use the SERFF system for submitting such filings. Filers should use the term "TRIA2015" in the product name field in SERFF to indicate a filing related to terrorism made in connection with the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015. The SERFF system alleviates the need to provide additional information in support of a request for expedited review.

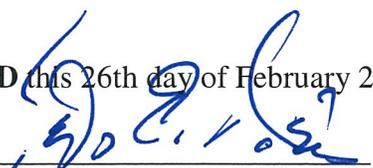
Provision for Workers' Compensation Policies

Workers' compensation insurance coverage is statutorily mandated for nearly all U.S. employers and exemptions are barred in all states. Thus, a business cannot voluntarily waive workers' compensation insurance (or terrorism coverage provided by a workers' compensation insurance policy), nor can an insurer exempt terrorism risk from a workers' compensation policy.

Effective Date

This Bulletin shall take immediate effect and shall expire on December 31, 2020, unless Congress extends the duration of the Act. The expedited filing procedures discussed in this Bulletin shall expire on April 1, 2015.

DATED this 26th day of February 2015



Todd E. Kiser
Insurance Commissioner