DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS DIVISION OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION LEGAL UNIT
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June 12, 2013

NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO READOPT EMERGENCY REGULATIONS

Subject: Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit

The Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) proposes to readopt the emergency regulations that were adopted effective January 1, 2013 (OAL File No. 2012-1214-01E) affecting the Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit (SJDB). The emergency regulations can be found at Article 8 of Chapter 4.5, Subchapter 1, of Title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 9813.1 and Articles 6, 6.5, and 7.5 of Chapter 4.5, Subchapter 1.5, of Title 8, California Code of Regulations, sections 10116.9, 10117, 10118, 10133.53, 10133.55, 10133.57, 10133.58 and 10133.60 and Article 7.5 of Chapter 4.5, Subchapter 1.5, of Title 8, California Code of Regulations, sections 10133.31, 10133.32, 10133.33, 10133.34, 10133.35, and 10133.36.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 52(c), DWC is incorporating by reference the rulemaking file, OAL File No. 2012-1214-01E, submitted December 14, 2012, for the initial adoption of the emergency regulations.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 52(b)(1), DWC has made progress and proceeded with diligence to comply with Government Code section 11346.1(e). On February 1, 2013, the Notice of Proposed Action for the above-described regulations was published in the California Regulatory Notice Register. DWC correspondingly posted all required rulemaking materials on its website and mailed the notice to the DWC interested parties list. On March 19, 2013, DWC conducted an open, regulatory hearing on the proposed Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit regulations. Since that time, DWC staff diligently reviewed extensive comments submitted during the 45-day public comment period resulting in substantive changes to the regulations. The DWC conducted a 1st 15-day comment period ending May 31, 2013 and continued to diligently review comments resulting in substantive changes which will require a 2nd 15-day comment period. The Supplemental Job Displacement Benefit regulations have been in effect since January 1, 2013. A readoption of the emergency regulations will provide the additional time necessary for DWC to complete the regular rulemaking process and Certificate of Completion.

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 52(b)(2) there have been no changes in emergency circumstances since the original adoption of the emergency regulations.

Government Code section 11346.1(a)(2) requires that, at least five working days prior to submission of the proposed emergency action to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), the adopting agency provide a notice of the proposed emergency action to every person who has filed a request for notice of regulations action with the agency. After submission of the proposed emergency to OAL, OAL shall allow interested persons five calendar days to submit comments on the proposed emergency regulations as set forth in Government Code section 11349.6. Upon filing, OAL will have ten (10) calendar days within which to review and make a decision on the proposed emergency rules. If approved, OAL will file the regulations with the Secretary of State, and the emergency regulations will become effective for one hundred and eighty (180) days. Within the 180-day effective period, DWC will proceed with a regular rulemaking action, including a public comment period. The emergency regulations will remain in effect during this rulemaking action.

Attached to this notice is the specific regulatory language now in place following DWC's emergency action and an updated version of the Finding of Emergency submitted to OAL in December 2012.

You may also review the regulatory language and Finding of Emergency on the DWC's website at the following address: http://www.dir.ca.gov/dwc/dwcRulemaking.html

If you have any questions regarding this proposed emergency action, please contact Maureen Gray at mgray@dir.ca.gov or (510) 286-0676.