

**IMPORTANT MATERIAL
TO BE IMPLEMENTED**

December 7, 2017

CIRCULAR LETTER TO ALL MEMBER COMPANIES

Re: (1) Private Passenger Recoupments
 (2) Closing
 (3) Amended Report Format

On April 1, 2018 a new combined recoupment surcharge will apply to non-fleet private passenger automobile business only as follows:

- 1) The current “clean risk” recoupment will **not** change for new and renewal policies effective on or after April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018; and
- 2) The loss recoupment **will** change for new and renewal policies effective on or after April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018.

For programming and monthly reporting purposes, these two recoupment factors are to be combined into a single factor and applied to non-fleet private passenger policies.

RECOUPMENT FACTORS

The following are the recoupment surcharges beginning April 1, 2018.

<u>Line code</u>	<u>Recoupment Type</u>	<u>Applicable to policies effective</u>	<u>Policy type</u>	<u>Surcharge (before agent comp)</u>
n/a	Clean Risk	04/1/18-09/30/18	All PPNF	5.25%*
n/a	Loss	04/1/18-09/30/18	All PPNF	6.67%*
CL04	Combined recoupment	04/1/18-09/30/18	All PPNF	11.92%

Please note:

- These April 1, 2018 “clean risk” and loss recoupment surcharges will run concurrently.
- The implementation date for these surcharges will be April 1, 2018 and the implementation period is for six months.
- All recoupment surcharges for this period should be reported under the single line code **CL04**.

* These figures are provided for informational purposes only, and should not be used for programming or reporting.

NON-FLEET PRIVATE PASSENGER AUTOMOBILE BUSINESS

“Clean Risk” Recoupment

For non-fleet private passenger automobile business, the “clean risk” recoupment surcharge of **5.25% (before inclusion of agent compensation)** will be applicable in accordance with law to policies issued to become effective during the six months beginning **April 1, 2018**. This surcharge is to offset a portion of the premium income lost by the Facility because “clean risks” in the Facility can only be charged the same rates as “clean risks” that are not reinsured in the Facility.

The “clean risk” recoupment surcharge is applicable to the liability, medical payments, uninsured motorists and underinsured motorists coverage premiums for all non-fleet private passenger vehicles, including motorcycles, insured on personal automobile policies and not on commercial automobile policies.

Loss Recoupment

For non-fleet private passenger automobile business, the loss recoupment surcharge of **6.67% (before inclusion of agent compensation)** will be applicable in accordance with law to policies issued to become effective during the six months beginning **April 1, 2018**. This surcharge is to recoup losses sustained by the Facility with respect to non-fleet private passenger motor vehicle business.

In the same manner as the “clean risk” recoupment surcharge, the loss recoupment surcharge is applicable to the liability, medical payments, uninsured motorists and underinsured motorists coverage premiums for all non-fleet private passenger vehicles, including motorcycles, insured on personal automobile policies and not on commercial automobile policies.

COMBINED Recoupment

Both the “clean risk” and loss recoupment surcharges are subject to the payment of agent compensation. The applicable rules and procedures and other requirements relating to recoupment are on Section 4, pages 13-1 through 13-3 of the NCRF Standard Practice Manual, which we request that you review and carefully observe, especially in regard to surcharge adjustments for voluntary policies written at deviated rates. A portion of this material is attached as Exhibit 2.

This combined recoupment surcharge applied to premiums should be the published combined percentage adjusted to include the agent compensation or commission paid on non-fleet private passenger business other than commercial business ceded by your company to the Facility. Surcharges must be rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percentage point in order to assure that proper agent compensation will be provided. For example, where a carrier pays (or would pay) a 10% commission on non-fleet private passenger motor vehicle business ceded to the Facility, the combined recoupment surcharge would be **13.24% (.1192 ÷ .90 = .1324)**. Samples are provided on Exhibit 3.

OTHER THAN NON-FLEET PRIVATE PASSENGER AUTOMOBILE BUSINESS

No recoupment surcharge is to be applied to premiums for other than non-fleet private passenger (commercial) vehicles under policies issued to become effective during the six months beginning April 1, 2018.

CLOSINGS AND REPORTING REVISIONS

Five recoupment line codes will be closed at this time. **Your company's Monthly Recoupment Report must be modified to reflect only active line codes with activity effective with the January 2018 accounting report submission (due by February 26, 2018)** to the NCRF. The recoupment surcharges are to be reported in the Monthly Recoupment Report (submitted monthly) and the Recoupment Detail Report (submitted upon request by the NCRF) and identified as follows by line code – see Exhibit 1. These reports are to be submitted in an electronic file submitted via FTP (file transfer protocol). It is understood that there will not necessarily be activity for the older line codes due to the age of the policy effective dates.

AMENDED REPORT FORMAT

Specifications for the Recoupment Detail Report are provided in the Standard Practice Manual, Section 4 Exhibits D-1 and D-2 and in the FTP Instruction Guide available on the NCRF website. These files may only be submitted via FTP

After the December 2017 accounting report cycle, any recoupment activity for policies effective prior to April 1, 2014 may **be included with the oldest open line, CR12.**

Please see to it that the above is brought to the attention of all interested personnel in your company responsible for programming, policy issuance or completing and submitting the monthly accounting reports.

Questions regarding this circular should be directed to Bill Benton at 919-645-3187 or e-mail at: web@ncrb.org.

Sincerely,

Terry F. Collins

Chief Operating Officer

North Carolina Reinsurance Facility

RF-17-15

Attachments

RECOUPMENT FACTORS

Following are the factors for the Facility's recoupment surcharges for the periods indicated.

Line code	Recoupment Type	Applicable to Policies Effective	Which Policies	Surcharge (before agent compensation)
CL04	NEW COMBINED RECOUPMENT	4/1/2018 - 9/30/2018	All PPNF	11.92%*
Prior Recoupments still open for reporting				
CL03	Combined Recoupment	10/1/2017 - 3/31/2018	All PPNF	10.31%
CL02	Combined Recoupment	4/1/2017 - 9/30/2017	All PPNF	9.94%
CL01	Combined Recoupment	10/1/2016 - 3/31/2017	All PPNF	8.26%
CR14	Clean Risk	10/1/2015 - 9/30/2016	All PPNF	4.06%
CR13	Clean Risk	10/1/2014 - 9/30/2015	All PPNF	4.86%
CR12	Clean Risk	4/1/2014 - 9/30/2014	All PPNF	4.67%
Prior Recoupments CLOSED for reporting				
CR11	Clean Risk	10/1/2013 - 3/31/2014	All PPNF	2.25%
CR10	Clean Risk	4/1/2013 - 9/30/2013	All PPNF	2.25%
CR09 (revised)	Clean Risk	10/1/12 - 3/31/13	All PPNF	3.87%
CR08	Clean Risk	10/1/11 - 9/30/12	All PPNF	3.87%
CR07	Clean Risk	10/01/10 - 9/30/11	All PPNF	4.33%
CR06	Clean Risk	11/01/09 - 9/30/10	All PPNF	6.41%
CR05	Clean Risk	10/01/08 - 10/31/09	All PPNF	4.24%
CR04	Clean Risk	10/01/07 - 9/30/08	All PPNF	2.48%
CR03	Clean Risk	10/01/06 - 9/30/07	All PPNF	8.82%
CR02	Clean Risk	10/01/05 - 9/30/06	All PPNF	9.71%
CR01	Clean Risk	4/1/05 - 9/30/05	All PPNF	6.43%
PP01	Loss	4/1/05 - 3/31/06	All PPNF	4.17%

* 5.25% + 6.67% = **11.92%**

North Carolina Reinsurance Facility Standard Practice Manual
Section 4, Chapter 13, Item C. Surcharges:

“The following are the guidelines applicable to the billing, collection, and recording of recoupment surcharges:

1. Surcharges apply on policies written to become effective during the time period announced by the Facility circulars. As to policies issued for a period of more than one year, the surcharge in effect at each anniversary of the policy effective date shall apply for the term, not to exceed one year, beginning on that date.
2. The surcharges are not considered or treated as written premiums, but on policies and billing statements the surcharges shall be combined with and displayed as a part of the applicable premium charges so that:
 - a. Under a single-vehicle policy the total amount of the applicable recoupment surcharges be divided equally and combined with the bodily injury and property damage liability premiums only.
 - b. Under a multi-vehicle policy the total amount of the applicable recoupment surcharges be divided equally among all vehicles and that the amount assigned to each vehicle be divided equally and combined with the bodily injury and property damage liability premiums only for each vehicle.
3. Since surcharges are not considered or treated as premiums
 - there are no escrow considerations;
 - there are no premium tax considerations;
 - there are no ceding or claim expense allowances on the surcharge amounts.
4. Surcharges are applicable only to liability coverages including bodily injury liability, property damage liability, medical payments, uninsured motorists, and underinsured motorists coverage premiums.
5. Exact surcharge amount (dollars and cents) must be charged and billed. Rounding is not permitted.
6. Detail records of surcharges are maintained at the company level. When required under Chapter 3, Paragraph J., member companies must submit a detail transaction listing to support surcharges reported to the Facility.
7. Policies may be canceled for non-payment of surcharge.
8. If a surcharged policy is canceled, there is an appropriate (pro rata, short rate or total) refund of the surcharges to the insured. Similarly, the surcharge(s) is adjusted in relation to additional or return premiums on transactions occurring after policy issuance.
9. [obsolete language removed]

10. On non-fleet private passenger car business to which any deviation from standard rates applies, the surcharge percentages otherwise applicable shall be adjusted so that the deviating company recovers the same dollar amount as would have been recovered had the surcharge percentages established by the Board of Governors been applied to the premium at standard rates.
11. The Plan of Operation requires payment of compensation to agents in relation to recoupment surcharges. The guidelines are as follows:
 - a. Compensation shall be paid by members of the North Carolina Reinsurance Facility to agents for services performed by such agents in relation to the collection of recoupment surcharges applicable to policies written to become effective on or after October 1, 1981.
 - b. Such compensation amount shall be equal to an amount determined by multiplying (i) the percentage rate of compensation paid to agents by each member of the North Carolina Reinsurance Facility on business ceded to the Facility by (ii) the amount of the recoupment surcharge including the agent compensation. The minimum compensation to be paid to agents on business ceded to the North Carolina Reinsurance Facility, as provided in G.S. 58-37-30 (a), is 5% of the policy premium for long haul trucking applicants and public passenger carrying vehicles other than school buses and 10% of the policy premium for other risks.
 - c. The recoupment surcharge amount added to each policy premium subject thereto shall include the amount necessary for the member company to recover the compensation paid to the agent in addition to the amount determined by applying to such premium the percentage determined by the Board of Governors. For example, if (i) the percentage adopted by the Board of Governors is 11.7%, (ii) the policy covers a non-fleet private passenger automobile, and (iii) the company's compensation or commission rate for such business ceded to the Facility is 10%, then the recoupment surcharge percentage applied to the policy premium subject thereto is $.117 / .90 = .130$ or 13.0%. If the policy covers a taxicab and the company's compensation or commission rate on such business ceded to the Facility is 5%, the recoupment surcharge is $.117 / .95 = .123$ or 12.3%.

The amount of the recoupment surcharge shall be determined by multiplying the recoupment surcharge percentage by the policy premium subject thereto.

For example, if the policy premium is \$180 and the recoupment surcharge percentage is 13.0% the amount of the recoupment surcharge is $\$180 \times .130 = \23.40 .

- d. For each recoupment the surcharge percentage applied to each policy premium subject thereto shall be the same regardless of whether the policy is ceded to the Facility or voluntarily retained by the member company. If for any reason a member company should elect to pay on voluntary business a higher percentage agent compensation or commission on recoupment amounts than it pays on business ceded to the Facility, the amount reported monthly to the Facility as recoupments written must be the same as would be reported if the compensation or commission were the same as on business ceded to the Facility.

For example, if (i) the policy covers a non-fleet private passenger automobile not ceded to the Facility (ii) the member company pays agent compensation or commission of 10% on such business ceded to the Facility, (iii) the recoupment surcharge amount determined in accordance with the above is \$23.40, and (iv) the company elects for any reason to pay the agent compensation or commission at the rate of 15%, then the amount reported to the Facility as recoupment written net of agent compensation or commission must be $.90 \times \$23.40$ or \$21.06, not $.85 \times \$23.40$ or \$19.89.”

SURCHARGE CALCULATION

The combined recoupment surcharge is to be **calculated on premium amounts at full manual rates, i.e. prior to the application of any deviations, and apply to other than commercial policies ceded to the Facility as well as to other than commercial policies retained voluntarily by member companies.**

For example, consider a policy for a single-vehicle risk as shown below with total liability, medical payments, uninsured motorists and underinsured motorists coverage premiums of \$400.00 subject to the combined recoupment surcharges. This policy would have total surcharges of \$52.96 (\$400 x .1324).

Coverage	Manual PREMIUMS	Amounts to be Charged after inclusion of Recoupment Surcharges
Bodily Injury	\$180.00	\$206.48 ^a
Property Damage	172.00	198.48 ^b
Medical Payments	27.00	27.00
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorists	21.00	21.00
Total	\$400.00	\$452.96

	Total Liability Premium X Surcharge	Surcharge divided by 2 (BI,PD)
Combined recoupment surcharge 13.24%	\$52.96	\$26.48

a: \$180.00+26.48
b: \$172.00+26.48

As another example, consider a policy for a two-vehicle risk as shown below with total liability, medical payments, uninsured motorists and underinsured motorists coverage premiums of \$1058.00 subject to the combined recoupment surcharges. This policy would have total surcharges of \$140.08 (\$1058.00 x .1324).

Coverage	Manual Premiums		Amounts to be charged after inclusion of Recoupment surcharges	
	Vehicle 1	Vehicle 2	Vehicle 1	Vehicle 2
Bodily Injury	\$395.00	\$125.00	\$430.02 ^a	\$160.02 ^c
Property Damage	300.00	123.00	335.02 ^b	158.02 ^d
Medical Payments	56.00	19.00	56.00	19.00
Uninsured/Underinsured Motorists	40.00	Included	40.00	Included
Total	\$791.00	\$267.00	\$861.04	\$337.04

	Total Liability Premium X Surcharge	Surcharge divided by 4 (2-BI,2-PD)
Combined recoupment surcharge 13.24%	\$140.08	\$35.02

a: \$395.00+35.02
b: \$300.00+35.02
c: \$125.00+35.02
d: \$123.00+35.02

Note: Both examples assume a 10% agent commission.

For your convenience, included as Exhibit 2 is an excerpt from the NCRF Standard Practice Manual to provide guidance on the definition and calculation of these surcharges. Please note that the excerpt outlines procedures for recoupments on **all types of policies; the recoupments currently authorized apply only to non-fleet private passenger business and do not apply to private passenger vehicles insured on commercial policies.**