



Information Bulletin 08-03

May 2, 2008

This bulletin highlights determinations by the Nova Scotia Insurance Review Board (the Board) that affect industry. This publication is not a legal document. It contains general information and is provided for convenience and guidance in applying the *Insurance Act* (Chapter 231 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 1989, as amended) (the *Act*), and Regulations. In all circumstances reference should be made to the legislation.

Summary of Application/Filing Requirements

With the implementation of “Rate Filing Requirements for Automobile Insurance – Section 155G – Endorsements”, and the replacement of “Rate Filing Requirements for Automobile Insurance – Section 155B Decreases” with “Rate Filing Requirements for Automobile Insurance -Section 155B – Overall Decrease”, the Board now has published eight sets of filing requirements. To assist insurers in determining which set of filing requirements to use, the Board has published the attached summary.

On all future applications, the company must state the Section of the *Act* upon which the application or filing is based and under which filing requirements the application is made so as to facilitate the review process. Failure to do so may result in delays.

Donna Boutilier
Executive Officer

Filing Requirement Title	Section	Description	Exclusions	Board Actions	Timeline	Appeal Process
Prior Approval	155G	Standard rate filing requirements for all changes (e.g. risk classification changes, rate changes, discount additions, etc.)	None	Approve Reject Alter	60 days (extendible to 120) from filing complete date	To different Board panel
Overall Decreases	155B	Schedule of Overall Decreases in rates with Cap - Decrease in rates with no existing individual insured seeing an increase greater than 2% per annum	Risk-Classification Factor Changes; Rating Rule Changes; Rating Algorithm Changes; Group Discount Changes/Additions; Additions/Deletions/Changes to Eligibility Criteria for Discounts and Surcharges	n/a	Letter from staff advising if filing is or is not compliant within 10 days	n/a
		Schedule of Overall Decreases in rates with no Cap - decrease in rates but an existing individual insured may see an increase greater than 2% per annum		Approve Reject Alter	20 day from filing date if Board notifies company of review, 10 days otherwise	To different Board panel
Expedited Approval	155H	Applications with rate changes less than or equal to prescribed percentage (currently 0%)	Risk-Classification Factor Changes; Rating Rule Changes; Rating Algorithm Changes; Additions/Deletions/Changes to Eligibility Criteria for Discounts and Surcharges; Group Discount Changes/Additions	Approve Reject	30 days from filing complete date	File a new 155H application or Re-apply under 155G to a different Board panel
CLEAR Table	155G ¹	Simplified Filing Requirements for Adoption of new CLEAR Tables	Any other changes	Approve Reject Alter	60 days (extendible to 120) from filing complete date	To different Board panel
Interurban Trucks	155G ¹	Simplified Filing for Classes 51, 61 and 99	Any other Vehicles	Approve Reject Alter	30 days ²	To different Board panel
Changes to Commercial Rate Group Tables	155G ¹	Simplified Filing Requirements for Changes to Rate Groups for Commercial Vehicles	Any other changes	Approve Reject Alter	15 days ²	To different Board panel

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Inexperienced Operators & Risk Sharing Pool	155G ¹	Simplified Filing Requirements to facilitate Insurers lowering rates for inexperienced drivers for FA Risk Sharing Pool	Increases Any other changes except to address dislocation around the 6 year point	Approve Reject Alter	20 days ²	To different Board panel
Endorsements	155G ¹	Simplified Filing Requirements to facilitate the introduction of a new endorsement, removal of an existing endorsement, or to make changes to existing endorsements	Any non-endorsement related changes; Any changes to SEF#44.	Approve Reject Alter	60 days (extendible to 120) from filing complete date	To different Board panel

¹ These applications are made under 155G with modified filing requirements.

² These filings are subject to the standard 60 days (extendible to 120) but the Board's intention, barring requirements for supplemental information from insurers, or other unforeseen circumstances, is for the shorter timelines noted.