



# NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

## Information Bulletin: INS-21-03

December 1, 2021

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This publication is not a legal document. It contains general information and is provided for convenience and guidance in applying the *Insurance Act*, R.S.N.S. 1989, c. 231, (“*Act*”), as amended, and *Regulations*. In all circumstances, reference should be made to the legislation.

### Section 155G - Commercial Vehicle Rate Group Tables

Updating commercial vehicle rate group tables to reflect newer model years is a risk-classification change that requires approval of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. The Board created simplified filing requirements where the company is making only this change. Board staff review the application and draft an approval memo that is shared with the company for comments. The application, the staff memo, company comments, and any other correspondence on the file are provided to the Panel Member to review and issue an approval Order. The Board expects to issue approval Orders within 15 days of the file being deemed complete, despite the 60-day time limit available under the *Insurance Act*. The Board has been successful in meeting this deadline.

As part of the annual evaluation of its automobile insurance mandate, Board staff recently examined this process and the outcomes observed for applications under these guidelines. Based on this examination, the Board made changes to the filing requirements and the review process.

Under the new filing requirements, if the company is moving from one version of IAO Commercial Rate Group tables to a newer version of those tables, the company need only identify the name of the current tables (e.g., January 2021 IAO Commercial Rate Group Tables I & II) and the name of the proposed tables. The application does not have to include the actual tables. However, if the company uses its own or other tables, a copy of the proposed tables must be provided. The Board has also removed the requirement to provide updated rating profiles.

To streamline the approval process, upon receipt of the application, Board staff will review the file. If information is missing, Board staff will ask the company to provide it. Once the file is complete, Board staff will draft an approval memo that will go directly to the Panel Member without sharing it with the company. The Board will then issue an approval Order.

The revised filing requirements and the streamlined process should reduce both Board and company resources for these table changes.

#### Questions

Any questions relating to this filing deadline may be directed to the following Board staff:

Barry Cotnam, Managing Director, Advisory Services ([Barry.Cotnam@novascotia.ca](mailto:Barry.Cotnam@novascotia.ca)); or  
Lisa Wallace, Clerk ([Lisa.Wallace@novascotia.ca](mailto:Lisa.Wallace@novascotia.ca))

Peter W. Gurnham, Q.C. Chair, Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board