

**INSURANCE COMMISSIONER APPROVES NO CHANGE TO PURE PREMIUM RATES FOR JANUARY 1, 2011**

**San Francisco, CA November 19, 2010** - On August 18, 2010, the WCIRB submitted a pure premium rate filing to the California Insurance Commissioner recommending a 29.6% increase in advisory pure premium rates ("Claims Cost Benchmark") with respect to new and renewal policies as of the first anniversary rating date of a risk on or after January 1, 2011. The filing also contained proposed changes to the *California Workers' Compensation Uniform Statistical Reporting Plan - 1995* (USRP), the *California Workers' Compensation Experience Rating Plan - 1995* (ERP) and the *Miscellaneous Regulations for the Recording and Reporting of Data* (Miscellaneous Regs).

On September 27, 2010, the WCIRB amended its August 18, 2010 filing to propose a +27.7% change in the Claims Cost Benchmark in lieu of the +29.6%. In addition, the WCIRB withdrew a proposed change to the USRP with respect to the establishment of Classification 8602 for land surveyors, oil or gas geologists or scouts, and geophysical exploration. (See related story, [WCIRB Amends January 1, 2011 Pure Premium Rate Filing.](#)) A public hearing on the matters contained in the WCIRB's filing was held on October 12, 2010 .

Yesterday, the California Department of Insurance (CDI) issued their decision. While the CDI's hearing officer's proposed decision recommended a 20.4% increase, the Commissioner's order directed that no change be made to the Claims Costs Benchmark. The WCIRB was directed to issue pure premium rates that reflected the updated classification relativities incorporated in the WCIRB's filing and the 0% approved change in the Claims Cost Benchmark. Other proposed changes to the USRP, ERP and Miscellaneous Regs were approved as filed, with the exception that the experience rating eligibility was increased to \$16,700 to reflect the 0% approved change in the Claims Cost Benchmark.

The Insurance Commissioner's Decision and electronic files containing the approved January 1, 2011 pure premium rates and the average approved pure premium rate change by North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) Sector grouping, may be downloaded from the [Regulatory Filings](#) section of the WCIRB website.

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