U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of Workers' Compensation Programs Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation Washington, DC 20210



RELEASE – REVISION OF DCMWC PROCEDURE MANUAL CHAPTER 2-1406, POST ENTITLEMENT CHANGES

BLBA TRANSMITTAL NO. 21-05

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EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED:

This transmittal publishes the updated DCMWC Procedure Manual Chapter 2-1406, Post Entitlement Changes. This update incorporates regulatory and procedural changes effective following the September 1994 release of the prior chapter. The updated chapter replaces the previous version in full and will be posted on the DCMWC website as well as the Black Lung Library. Accordingly, the prior chapter will be removed from the library and archived for historical purposes.

Changes in this chapter provide guidelines and procedures for adjusting monthly benefit payments to entitled individuals subject to the provisions and limitations of the Act.

In addition to the updates within this chapter, are the requirements for monitoring changes in beneficiary's status, which affects the amount of benefits payable by either a responsible operator or the Trust Fund.

Also, in an effort to streamline and consolidate policy and procedural guidance, as each updated chapter is released, the previous chapter and associated guidance in the Black Lung Library will be removed from the library and archived for historical purposes.

<u>Action</u>: Staff should destroy locally-stored paper copies of the previous version of Procedure Manual Chapter 2-1406.

Michael A. Chance Director, Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation

Distribution: All DCMWC Staff and National Administrator-DCMWC-Black Lung Field Operations