



NS Northern Lines / WLE
General Committee of Adjustment

BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN

A DIVISION OF THE RAIL CONFERENCE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMESTERS

Cole W. Davis – General Chairman
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May 12, 2009

All BLET Local Chairmen,
Division Presidents &
Division Secretary/Treasurers of
The Norfolk Southern Railroad

PLEASE POST ON BULLETIN BOARDS

Dear Brothers/Sisters:

This letter is to provide updated information pertaining to our short term disability plans for all locomotive engineers and BLET non-eligible engineers and conductor members (Voluntary Plan).

We presently have Lincoln Financial Group for our Locomotive Engineers' Disability Plan (Policy #10099947-000). Please call LFG to file a disability claim. Mr. Woody Taylor and Staff at Railroad Marketing Specialist have been doing a great job since taking over as our Broker of Record. Please advise your members to call their office if they have any problems with a claim or questions on the plan. Brother Bill Thompson (Vice General Chairman, Southern Committee) is the administrator of our insurance plans and he is working with Mr. Taylor's staff to resolve any issues our members may have. Below is a list of telephone numbers for your reference:

To File a Claim with LFG:	(866) 783-2255
To FAX information to LFG:	(800) 922-3503 % Mr. Keith Day
Railroad Marketing Specialist:	(877) 646-9951 or 888-696-9951
(Woody Taylor, CLU)	FAX(435) 688-1338

509 WEST REED STREET * MOBERLY, MISSOURI 65270

In accordance with our September 1, 2008 Agreement the Carrier increased their portion of the premiums from \$13.00 to \$44.00. This created an excess contribution payment by our engineers of \$10.48. The Carrier would not reduce our contribution below the original \$13.68 although this would have been the most practical solution to the overpayment problem. At an April meeting in Chattanooga the General Chairmen looked at many different options for the excess funds including just putting it in a trust fund for paying down future increases in premiums. In the end, we unanimously agreed that enhancing the program by adding more benefits gave us the best value for our money. The additional benefits for all qualifying engineers are as follows:

\$50,000.00 Life Insurance (Policy # 01-0114878)

\$112,000.00 Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) Insurance

The above benefits are in addition to the \$500,000 of AD&D coverage we have if an engineer is killed in a third party conveyance (Taxi/Jitney) and the \$20,000 Insurance provided by the Health & Welfare portion of our National Agreement.

Attached please find a copy of the Beneficiary Designation Form for all locomotive engineers to complete and forward by fax to Railroad Marketing Specialist at the fax number listed at the top of the form. **(435-688-1338)**. Mr. Taylor's office will handle the forms with LFG. **Make sure you talk to all of the engineers to insure they complete this form and fax it to Mr. Taylor's office as soon as possible.**

If there is a future premium increase we will have to decide whether to reduce the amount of AD&D protection or simply raise our contribution to the premium. The policy will be up for renewal on January 1, 2010.

We have still had a few issues with engineers that have been released by their treating physician but the NS Medical Department has refused to allow the engineer to mark up. Billy Thompson has submitted a blank copy of the "Attending Physician Statement" to the Medical Department so that they can fill it out and advise LFG why the engineer is unable to return to duty. If any of you have a member in this situation please ask them to contact the NS Medical Department and ask them to forward the completed "Attending Physician Statement" to LFG for continued benefits. According to Mr. Keith Day at LFG, if the employee will call him and explain the situation, in most cases he will continue to pay the benefit. The employee should notify Mr. Day as soon as the NS Medical releases him/her for return to duty to avoid any over payments.

Regarding our voluntary short term disability plan (for our Trainmen members), we are happy to announce that we extended the policy for another two (2) year period effective May 1, 2009 without any increase in the premiums. Please let the members know that they should still call Bill Thompson's office to file a claim. For those of you that may not have been notified, his address has changed to the following:

Mr. Bill Thompson
BLET Vice-General Chairman
513 Route 30, Suite C
Imperial, PA 15126-1173
Office (724) 695-3435
Mobile (412) 848-1289

If you have any questions about our plans, please feel free to call me or Secretary/Treasurer Jerry Elmore in the General Committee's Office at (660) 269-8455, or contact Bill Thompson at his above listed numbers.

Fraternally,



Cole W. Davis
BLET General Chairman
NS Northern Lines & WLE

Cc: BLET General Chairmen
Mr. W. E. Knight, Vice President
Mr. William Thompson, 1st Vice-General Chairman
Mr. Woody Taylor, CLU
UTU General Chairmen