SURPLUS LINES (C) TASK FORCE

Surplus Lines (C) Task Force Aug. 13, 2024, Minutes

Surplus Lines (C) Working Group June 28, 2028, Minutes (Attachment One)

Surplus Lines (C) Working Group April 30, 2024 Minutes (Attachment Two)

NAIC International Insurers Department (IID) Plan of Operation (Plan of Operation) (Attachment Two-A)

Draft Surplus Lines Service of Process (Attachment Three)

Exempt Commercial Purchaser Minimum Qualifications (Attachment Four)

Surplus Lines (C) Task Force 2025 proposed charges (Attachment Five)

Surplus Lines (C) Task Force Chicago, Illinois August 13, 2024

The Surplus Lines (C) Task Force met in Chicago, IL, Aug. 13, 2024. The following Task Force members participated: Larry D. Deiter, Chair, and Frank Marnell (SD); Cassie Brown, Vice Chair, represented by Jamie Walker (TX); Lori K. Wing-Heier represented by Sian Ng-Ashcraft (AK); Ricardo Lara represented by Libio Latimer (CA); Michael Conway represented by Rolf Kaumann (CO); Karima M. Woods represented by Angela King (DC); Michael Yaworsky represented by Sheryl Parker (FL); Gordon I. Ito represented by Randy Jacobson (HI); Dean L. Cameron represented by Randy Pipal (ID); Ann Gillespie represented by Julie Rachford (IL); Joy Y. Hatchette represented by Erin Nickles (MD); Kevin P. Beagan represented by James A. McCarthy (MA); Grace Arnold represented by Kathleen Orth (MN); Scott Kipper represented by Dede Benissan (NV); Mike Causey represented by Angela Hatchell (NC); Glen Mulready represented by Eli Snowbarger (OK); Michael Humphreys represented by Michael McKenney (PA); Carter Lawrence represented by Trey Hancock (TN); Tregenza A. Roach represented by Cheryl Charleswell (VI); and Mike Kreidler represented by Todd Dixon (WA).

1. Adopted its Spring National Meeting Minutes

Walker made a motion, seconded by Orth, to adopt the Task Force's Spring National Meeting minutes (*see NAIC Proceedings – Spring 2024, Surplus Lines (C) Task Force*). The motion passed unanimously.

2. <u>Adopted the Report of the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group Including Amendments to the International</u> <u>Insurers Department Plan of Operation</u>

Snowbarger said the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group met April 30. During this meeting, it discussed draft enhancements and edits to the *NAIC International Insurers Department Plan of Operation* (Plan). Snowbarger said this Plan guides alien insurers on filing and compliance requirements to become and remain listed on the *Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers* (Quarterly Listing). The following substantive amendments were made to the Plan:

- Section II, Requirements and Guidelines: Language was added to address the need for an NAIC alien ID in
 order to apply to write business in the United States. Additional context explains that the alien ID does
 not provide any form of authority and is only used for reporting purposes as an identifier. Amendments
 were also made to move the analysis considerations out from the "Equity Requirement" section to a new
 section entitled "Overall Risk Assessment." Snowbarger said this was done because the analysis
 considerations are evaluated for every application and renewal, so having these requirements embedded
 only within the Equity Requirements section did not reflect the actual review process that takes place.
 Further, he indicated that a new analysis consideration was added to address market conduct. He
 indicated that market conduct would be assessed through complaints, claims practices, litigation, and any
 other regulatory concerns.
- Section II.E, Ethics and Integrity: This section was broken into two subsections. First, a section for "Governance and Market Conduct" was added. He stated that this subsection was largely part of the plan language except for a newly added lead-in sentence. Secondly, he indicated that a new "Market Conduct" section requires insurers to maintain sound market conduct practices and submit details on examination findings if an insurer is subject to a market conduct examination.

Draft Pending Adoption

• Section IV, Ongoing Quarterly Listing Eligibility: This section was amended to include a new sentence that indicates that Quarterly Listed insurers are analyzed annually based on the requirements outlined in Section II.

Snowbarger stated that the Working Group exposed the plan for a 30-day public comment period that ended May 31. The Plan was adopted by the Working Group during an e-vote (Attachment One) on June 28.

Snowbarger said that the Working Group also met June 25 and March 28 in regulator-to-regulator session, pursuant to paragraph 3 (specific companies, entities, or individuals) of the NAIC Policy Statement on Open Meetings. During its March 28 meeting, the Working Group approved three applications for admittance to the April 1 Quarterly Listing, and during its June 25 meeting, the Working Group approved four applications seeking admittance to the July 1 Quarterly Listing.

Kaumann made a motion, seconded by Walker, to adopt the report of the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group, including its April 30 minutes (Attachment Two) and amendments to the Plan. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Exposed the Draft Surplus Lines Service of Process

Marnell said the drafting group met May 29 and May 6. He commented that Thomas Dawson (McDermott Will & Emery) and Andrea Best (McDermott Will & Emery) coordinated an industry draft version of the surplus lines service of process form with input from other interested parties. He stated that the drafting group reviewed the industry draft edits, made some adjustments, and compiled a red-lined version of the form (Attachment Three). He stated that the most significant edit is the addition of "by the State(s) designated or under a surplus lines policy issued to a policyholder whose 'Home State' is such State pursuant to Section 3.J and 9 of the NAIC's *Nonadmitted Insurance Model Act* (#870)." He said that this language was added to the first paragraph on Page 1 of the form. He also indicated that edits were made to the "Resolution Authorizing Appointment of Attorney" section on Page 6 where language was added regarding the policyholders' home state where the surplus lines policy was issued. Marnell indicated that the balance of the edits was made to modernize the form.

Director Deiter asked for a motion to expose the draft surplus lines service of process form for a 30-day public comment period ending Sept. 13. Walker made a motion, seconded by Kaumann, to expose the report. The motion passed unanimously.

4. <u>Heard Adjustments to the Exempt Commercial Purchaser Minimum Qualifications</u>

Daleo said that the minimum qualifications were adjusted to reflect the June 2024 consumer price index (CPI) – all urban consumers from the previously established minimum qualifications that were effective Jan. 1, 2020. He indicated that the new minimum qualifications (Attachment Four) would be effective Jan. 1, 2025. Director Deiter commented that the new minimum qualifications would be posted to the Task Force's webpage within the "Documents" tab.

5. Adopted its 2025 Proposed Charges

Director Deiter stated that the 2025 proposed charges for the Task Force and the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group do not reflect any edits from the previous charges.

Walker made a motion, seconded by Orth, to adopt the Task Force's 2025 proposed charges (Attachment Five). The motion passed unanimously.

6. <u>Heard a Presentation on Public Adjusters in the Surplus Lines Marketplace</u>

Draft Pending Adoption

Jeffrey Gould (Sill Public Adjusters) said that the National Association of Public Insurance Adjusters (NAPIA) is licensed in 46 states and the District of Columbia, and it primarily represents small businesses with some members representing residential insureds. He indicated that NAPIA's purpose is to assist property owners when they have a claim and to act as a fiduciary to the insureds. Gould stated that the primary goal of NAPIA is to ensure equitable payment to the insured, quick settlement of the claim, and to handle all of the paperwork for the insured. Gould indicated the NAPIA members are not independent adjusters who are hired by the insurer. He stated that public adjusters are hired by the insured for the interest of the insured. He indicated that many businesses do not understand how to manage the claims process and that public adjusters walk the insured through the process.

Brian Goodman (Goodman Law Group) commented that he represents NAPIA as its general counsel. Goodman indicated that they are seeing a trend in the surplus lines industry of hiring a third party when the insured and insurer cannot agree on the indemnity of a claim. He indicated that this appraisal process is being used in the surplus lines industry more frequently than it should be. Further, Gould indicated that there is typically an arbitration clause that requires the insured to travel to a state, as indicated in the policy, to appraise the loss. Gould stated that many surplus lines policies also include anti-public adjuster endorsements. He stated that these endorsements prohibit any insured from using a public adjuster. He indicated that this type of language in the policy is likely unconstitutional and probably illegal and that there are antitrust ramifications.

Jim Beneke (The Beneke Company/Adjusters International) commented that property insurance policies place the burden of proof on the insured to prove the claim, and only an attorney or a public adjuster can assist the insured in meeting its obligations under an insurance policy. Beneke commented that some insureds may turn to a contractor to assist in adjusting the claim and that these contractors are unaware that they are entering the unauthorized practice of public adjusting and law. He indicated that the contractor will not have the specialized knowledge and expertise of a public adjuster. Beneke stated that this is a consumer rights issue because the insured should have the option to hire a public adjuster. Beneke said that Texas took action to end this practice.

Director Deiter asked if there are particular states that contain the anti-public adjuster endorsement within the policy language. Beneke indicated that these endorsements are present in Florida, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New York, and Ohio. Parker commented that in order to address the issue, she would like to see the trends in anti-public adjuster endorsements and the appraisal abuse that includes a list of insurers and the number of insureds impacted. Beneke indicated that he would gather the necessary information and provide it to Parker. Marnell indicated that this appears to be an antitrust issue. Beneke indicated that the easiest way to solve this problem is through the state legislature process.

Having no further business, the Surplus Lines (C) Task Force adjourned.

SharePoint/NAIC Support Staff Hub/Member Meetings/C CMTE/SLTF/2024 Summer NM/SLTF Minutes Aug 13 2024.docx

Draft: 7/1/24

Surplus Lines (C) Working Group E-Vote June 28, 2024

The Surplus Lines (C) Working Group of the Surplus Lines (C) Task Force conducted an e-vote that concluded June 28, 2024. The following Working Group members participated: Eli Snowbarger, Vice Chair (OK); Michelle Lo (CA); Renee Sanchez (CO); Scott Sanders (GA); James A. McCarthy (MA); Jose Joseph (NY); Amy Garcia (TX); and Steve Drutz (WA).

1. Adopted the NAIC IID Plan of Operation

The Working Group conducted an e-vote to consider adoption of the modifications to the NAIC International Insurers Department (IID) Plan of Operation. The motion passed with a majority of the members in favor of adoption.

Having no further business, the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group adjourned.

SharePoint/NAIC Support Staff Hub/Member Meetings/C CMTE/2024 Summer/Surplus Lines Task Force/SLWG Minutes_June24.docx

Draft: 06/6/24

Surplus Lines (C) Working Group Virtual Meeting April 30, 2024

The Surplus Lines (C) Working Group of the Surplus Lines (C) Task Force met April 30, 2024. The following Working Group members participated: Stewart Guerin, Chair (LA); Eli Snowbarger, Vice Chair (OK); David Phifer (AK); Michelle Lo (CA); Rolf Kaumann (CO); Sheryl Parker (FL); Scott Sanders (GA); Marcy Savage (IL); John Turchi (MA); William Leach (NJ); Jose Joseph (NY); Amy Garcia (TX); and Steve Drutz (WA).

1. Discussed Draft Amendments to the NAIC IID Plan of Operation

Andy Daleo (NAIC) summarized the proposed changes to the NAIC International Insurers Department (IID) Plan of Operation (Plan of Operation) (Attachment Two-A). The following proposed changes to the Plan of Operation were highlighted: 1) adding language to emphasize that an alien ID is for reporting purposes only; 2) moving analysis considerations from the equity requirement section to a new standalone requirement section titled "Overall Risk Assessment"; 3) adding market conduct requirements to the overall risk assessment and ethics/integrity requirements sections; 4) adding clarifying language to the U.S. Trust Fund and Annual and Ongoing Analysis sections; and 6) removing "Examination of Insurer" from the ongoing analysis section. Daleo indicated that if adopted, the Plan of Operation would be effective January 1, 2025.

Drutz indicated that Section II.B - Equity Requirement, would benefit from a revision to move the language addressing the possibility of a greater equity requirement and/or additional reporting into the same paragraph with the language addressing an Insurer's risk profile. Daleo requested the comment be submitted to be addressed during the exposure period.

Guerin requested the exposure of the draft IID Plan of Operation.

Snowbarger made a motion, seconded by Drutz, to expose the draft Plan of Operation for a 30-day public comment period ending May 31. The motion passed unanimously.

Having no further business, the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group adjourned.

SharePoint/NAIC Support Staff Hub/Member Meetings/ C CMTE/2024_Summer/SLTF/SLWG/ SLWG minutes April 30

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IID

Background

The NAIC has a long history of supporting state insurance departments' regulatory efforts regarding insurers domiciled outside of the United States (alien) participating in the U.S. nonadmitted market. Initially acting only as a repository for alien insurer financial records, the NAIC has transitioned over the years to its present role as the recognized authority for alien insurers (hereafter, Insurer(s) refers to alien domiciled companies and Lloyd's syndicates) seeking approval to write direct surplus lines <u>business-premiums</u> in all U.S. states and territories. The NAIC International Insurers Department (IID) and the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group (Working Group) are responsible for maintaining this Plan of Operation (Plan) that provides details on the requirements, standards, and processes that Insurers must meet to gain and maintain inclusion on the *Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers* (Quarterly Listing). The Plan provides a description of the roles NAIC staff- and selected state regulators perform in the oversight of alien Insurers writing surplus lines business in the U.S.

Introduction

The Plan describes how the IID operates and how Insurers obtain inclusion on the Quarterly Listing. The IID is comprised of experienced financial analysts that review applications and renewal filing documents, prepare written analyses, and provide support to NAIC surplus lines committees and working groups. The IID also includes an Internal Review Committee (Internal Committee) that consists of NAIC directors, managers, attorneys, and analysts. The Internal Committee reviews IID analyses and provides a report of recommendation to the <u>Surplus Lines (C) Working</u> <u>Group (</u>Working Group). The <u>Property and Casualty Insurance (C) Committee</u> is designated the "Appeal Committee" for decisions made by the Working Group and has no direct involvement in making or approving recommendations regarding alien surplus lines insurers.

The IID functions on behalf of state departments of insurance by maintaining qualifying standards for Insurers domiciled outside of the U.S. seeking eligibility to write direct U.S. surplus lines. Section 524(2)¹ of the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street and Consumer Protection Act recognizes the Quarterly Listing as identifying Insurers for which states may not prohibit brokers from placing or procuring nonadmitted insurance in the U.S. The Quarterly Listing is a public document that is posted on the <u>Publications</u> page of the NAIC website. This Quarterly Listing represents Insurers that qualify for listing as outlined in *Section II – <u>Core</u> Requirements and Guidelines for Inclusion on the Quarterly Listing.* Modifications to listed companies are summarized within each Quarterly Listing. The Working Group will make the final determination of all Insurer eligibility.

The Working Group provides oversight to the IID and reports to the <u>Surplus Lines (C) Task Force</u> (Task Force), which functions under the NAIC <u>Property and Casualty Insurance (C) Committee</u>. The Working Group is comprised of state regulators with experience in financial analysis and surplus lines regulation. The Working Group provides the IID with guidance and expertise relative to applications and renewals as well as regulatory policy and practices with respect to Insurers listed on or seeking inclusion on the Quarterly Listing.

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¹15 U.S.C. § 8204(2).

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The following table provides a summary of the key NAIC IID workflow:

IID	 Analyzes and monitors Quarterly Listing insurer financial filings; Maintains Quarterly Listing, IIDfile System, and resources available to the insurers; and Recommends revisions and enhancements to the <i>Nonadmitted Insurance Model Act</i> (#870), IID Plan of Operation, and other surplus lines documentation.
IID Internal Committee	 Consists of NAIC directors, senior managers, attorneys, and analysts; Reviews application and renewal analyses and provides recommendations to the <u>Surplus Lines (C) Working Group</u>; and Reviews recommended changes to IID documentation, such as the Plan of Operation.
Surplus Lines (C) Working Group	 Consists of experienced surplus lines regulators; Maintains and drafts new guidance within the IID Plan of Operation; Reviews and considers appropriate decisions regarding applications for admittance to the Quarterly Listing; Provides a forum for surplus lines-related discussion; and Determines final-eligibility of insurers on the Quarterly Listing.
<u>Surplus Lines (C) Task Force</u>	 Provides oversight for the work produced- completed within the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group; Provides a forum for discussion of current and emerging surplus lines-related issues and topics of public policy and determines appropriate regulatory response and action; Reviews and analyzes quantitative and qualitative data on U.S. domestic and alien surplus lines industry results and trends; Monitors federal legislation related to the surplus lines market and ensures all interested parties remain apprised; and Develops or amends relevant NAIC model laws, regulations and/or guidelines.
Property and Casualty Insurance (C) Committee	Monitors the activities of the <u>Surplus Lines (C)</u> <u>Task Force</u> ; and Handles any appeals regarding decisions made within the <u>Surplus Lines (C) Working Group</u> .

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I. Application Process

An Insurer planning to write U.S. surplus lines via admittance to the Quarterly Listing will first register with <u>OPTins</u>. <u>OPTins</u> is an electronic filing and payment system utilized for filing alien surplus lines applications. Through <u>OPTins</u>, the applicant will remit all required filings along with a non-refundable electronic payment in the amount indicated in the <u>Application Filing Memo & Instructions</u>. The application fee covers the cost of <u>processing reviewing</u> and evaluating the Insurer's application. The Insurer will find a comprehensive list of required filings within the <u>Application Filing Memo & Instructions</u> document. This document as well as other resources can also be found within the "Documents" tab on the <u>Surplus Lines (C) Working Group</u> webpage.

The Quarterly Listing is published on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1. A complete application must be submitted no fewer than 90 days in advance of the publication date in which the Insurer applies to be listedadmitted. If the application is submitted fewer less than 90 days prior to the intended publication date, it will may not be considered until the following subsequent Qauarterly Listing publication releasedate.

The IID will review and evaluate the information submitted by the Insurer seeking admittance to the Quarterly Listing. The IID will evaluate whether the Insurer meets the standards set forth in *Section II - Core Requirements and Guidelines for Inclusion on the Quarterly Listing.* The IID may contact the Insurer for additional information or to seek clarification of any concerns during its review of the application. If all questions and/or concerns (e.g., receipt of required documents and IID requested explanations and supporting documentation) are not resolved within six-months of the application submission date, the application may be rejected and a letter informing the Insurer of the decision will be issued. Refer to *Section III - Process for Reconsideration of an Application Rejection.* Following completion of the review, the IID will meet with the Internal Committee to discuss the evaluation and determine a recommendation. The Internal Committee will present its recommendation to the Working Group for consideration. Following determination by the Working Group, a letter detailing approval or denial will be sent to the Insurer by the IID.

If the Insurer is approved, an approval letter will be sent a minimum of ten calendar days in advance of the listing date and the Insurer will be included in the next Quarterly Listing. The Insurer must establish the required trust fund (See *Section II.B - U.S. Trust Fund*) prior to being admitted to the Quarterly Listing. Further, the IID must receive the trust balance report detailing the trust fund holdings.

I. Core Requirements and Guidelines for Inclusion on the Quarterly Listing

A. Alien ID

An Alien ID is required to apply for admittance to the Quarterly Listing. The alien ID is a unique identifier for non-U.S. insurers. **The alien ID does not provide any type of authority or authorization to write business in the U.S.** The alien ID is used only for identification of a non-U.S. insurer that is reported within a U.S. financial statement, the NAIC Listing of Companies, or the Quarterly Listing.

B. Equity Requirement

A minimum shareholders' equity amount of \$50.0 million must be maintained on a continuous basis. A higher minimum amount of shareholders' equity may be required if after evaluation it is determined \$50 million is inadequate Shareholders' equity will be evaluated to determine if it is adequate given the Insurer's risk profile.

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If there is a determination that the minimum shareholders' equity is inadequate, the Insurer will be subject to the higher requirement an equity requirement above the minimum amount of \$50 million may be required-or, the Insurer may be subject to additional ongoing reporting (e.g., monthly and/or quarterly reporting).

In lieu of syndicate shareholders' equity, Lloyd's is required to report a U.S. trust fund of not less than \$100 million available for the benefit of all Lloyd's U.S. surplus lines policyholders. In addition, a review of the Funds at Lloyd's (member assets) is considered.

A.<u>C. Overall Risk Assessment</u>Shareholders' Equity Funds (See Lloyd's Notation below)

A minimum shareholders' equity amount of \$50.0 million must be maintained on a continuous basis. Shareholders' equity will be evaluated to determine if it is adequate given the Insurer's risk profile. The <u>IID</u> will analyze the <u>following key factors may be considered by the IID</u>overall operations, performance, risk of the insurer, and projected U.S. risk exposure. The following factors will be considered:

Operating Hhistory and Ttrends;

The entities historical performance and trends will be evaluated in conjunction with its plans and projections.

Quality and Deliversification of Aassets;

Invested and non-invested assets will be assessed for quality and diversification in relation to outstanding risk of the entity.

Mix of Bbusiness and Ggeographic Ddiversification;

The entities mix of business and geographic diversification will be reviewed alongside performance by class of business.

Gross and Net linsurance leverageand Reserve Leverage;

The exposure on both a gross and net leverage basis will be assessed and compared to the equity of the entity.

Reinsurance Pprogram and Qquality of Rreinsurers;

The portfolio of reinsurance will be reviewed along with the collectability of reinsurance recoverables.

<u>Gross reserve leverage;</u>

<u>Cash Fflow and Lliquidity</u>;

Historical performance of cash flow along with its impact on liquidity and the overall liquidity needs of the entity.

Access to Ceapital;

The entity's access to additional capital will be assessed should additional funds become necessary.

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<u>Dividend and/or upstream funding history; and</u>

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The holding company's financial support from the entity's will be assessed.

Market Conduct

Market conduct will be assessed through complaints, claims practices, litigation, and any other regulator concerns.

Other factors deemed relevant to the review.

Given each entity is unique certain additional information may be requested.

If there is a determination that shareholders' equity is inadequate based on the analysis of the Insurer's risk profile, an equity requirement above the minimum amount of \$50 million may be required. Or, the Insurer may be subject to additional ongoing reporting (e.g., monthly and/or quarterly reporting).

Lloyd's Notation

In lieu of individual shareholders' equity, Lloyd's syndicates are required to report a U.S. trust fund of not less than \$100 million available for the benefit of all Lloyd's U.S. surplus lines policyholders. In addition, a review of the Funds at Lloyd's (member assets) is considered.

If there is a determination that shareholders' equity is inadequate based on the analysis of the Insurer's risk profile, an equity requirement above the minimum amount of \$50 million may be required. Or, the Insurer may be subject to additional ongoing reporting (e.g., monthly and/or quarterly reporting).

Lloyd's Notation

In lieu of individual shareholders' equity, Lloyd's syndicates are required to report a U.S. trust fund of not less than \$100 million available for the benefit of all Lloyd's U.S. surplus lines policyholders. In addition, a review of the Funds at Lloyd's (member assets) is considered.

B.D. U.S. Trust Fund

The purpose for establishing a trust fund is to provide additional assurance that U.S. policyholders are protected. The trust fund must consist of cash, securities, or an acceptable evergreen letter of credit, or combination at an appropriate level, deposited with a trustee for the benefit of U.S. policyholders. Regarding the composition of the trust fund, credit will be allowed only for (i) securities readily marketable on a regulated U.S. securities exchange, (ii) securities assigned a rating designation on the NAIC Securities Valuation Office List of Investment Securities as defined in the Purposes and Procedures Manual of the NAIC Investment Analysis Office, or (iii) investments of substantially the same character and quality as those which are eligible investments for the capital and statutory reserves of admitted insurers to write like kinds of insurance in the state where the Trust is principally administered. An acceptable letter of credit is defined as unconditional, irrevocable, evergreen, and issued by a qualified U.S. financial institution.

In establishing its trust fund, the Insurer must maintain such fund at, and enter into an agreement with, a qualified U.S. financial institution. The agreement must contain provisions consistent with the HD model document, <u>Trust Agreement for Alien Excess or Surplus Lines InsurersNAIC Standard Form Trust Agreement for Alien Excess or Surplus Lines Insurers- or the- Lloyd's United States Situs Excess or Surplus Lines Trust Deed.</u> For purposes of complying with the trust fund requirement as well as the Lloyd's U.S. Situs Excess or Surplus Lines Trust Deed, a qualified U.S. financial institution:

- Is organized or (in the case of a U.S. branch office of a foreign banking organization) licensed under the laws of the U.S. or any state thereof;
- A national bank, state bank, or trust company which is adequately capitalized and qualified to accept securities as determined by the standards adopted by the U.S. banking regulators and regulated by

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state banking laws or a member of the Federal Reserve system; and

 Has been granted authority to operate with trust powers, if such qualified U.S. financial institution is to act as the fiduciary of the trust fund.

Determining the Trust Fund Level

The trust fund minimum amount will be based on the U.S. gross surplus lines <u>reserve</u> liabilities (i.e., gross reserve for unpaid losses <u>reserves</u> for case and <u>Incurred But Not Reported</u> + gross <u>loss</u> reserve for unpaid loss adjustment expenses) excluding <u>liabilities_loss</u> reserves recorded for arising from aviation, ocean marine, and transportation insurance (NAIC *Nonadmitted Insurance Model Act* (#870), Section 3 – Definitions, Wet Marine and Transportation Insurance, provides an illustrative example), and direct procurement. The calculation of the required trust fund minimum balance is as follows:

- 30% of U.S. gross reserve liabilities up to \$200 million, plus
- 25% of U.S. gross reserve liabilities greater than \$200 million and up to \$500 million, plus
- 20% of U.S. gross <u>reserve</u> liabilities greater than \$500 million and up to \$1 billion, plus
- 15% of U.S. gross reserve liabilities in excess of \$1 billion

In no event will the required trust fund minimum amount, despite the calculation above, be less than \$6.5 million or in excess of exceed \$250 million.

The trust fund minimum will be verified annually through the review of the U.S. gross <u>reserve</u> liabilities reported within the loss reserve certification no later than June 30 of each year. The opining actuary must be a member of a recognized professional actuarial body. Additionally, per the <u>Trust Agreement for Alien</u> <u>Excess or Surplus Lines InsurersNAIC Standard Form Trust Agreement for Alien Excess or Surplus Lines Insurers</u>. Section 2.13b, the trustee is required to provide a trust balance report no later than 30 days post quarter end, to the IID. The trust balance report should include sufficient details on the assets held in trust and meet the required minimum balance. Based on the review of the trust balance report, any shortage in the balance must be remedied within 15 days of notification to the Insurer.

In the case of Lloyd's syndicates, for the total of all years of account, the trust fund minimum amount for each syndicate will be based on the syndicate's gross U.S. surplus lines <u>reserve</u> liabilities using the trust fund calculation above.

In extenuating situations (e.g., potential legal action on exposures not yet included within gross loss reserves) there may be a need to require a trust fund balance that is greater than the normaldetermined by the trust fund calculation based on the Insurer's risk profile. The IID will consider the following factors in determining an appropriate trust fund level:

- The types and amount of premiums that the Insurer writes or proposes to write in the U.S.;
- The type and valuation of the assets that compriose the trust fund may be adjusted for any
 questionable balances; and
- The terms and conditions as outlined within the trust agreement.

Process for Reconsideration of a Trust Fund Level

In the event of a determination that a trust fund balance greater than the calculated minimum level is appropriate, a written request for reconsideration may be submitted if the Insurer objects to the determination. To request reconsideration, the following criteria must be met:

• The request must be received by the IID within 30 days of the date on the trust fund adjustment letter;

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- The request must be in letter format and signed by an officer of the Insurer; and
- The request must include a comprehensive rationale for disagreement with regard to the determined trust fund level.

The IID will evaluate the appeal with consideration given to the information provided within the request letter and the information will be presented to the Working Group to determine a recommendation. The Working Group's recommendation will then be presented at a regulator-only Appeal Committee meeting for consideration. A representative of the Working Group and the Insurer will be allowed to participate. Following review and a determination by the Appeal Committee, the IID will send a letter to the Insurer detailing approval or denial of the request.

C.E. Ethics and Integrity

Governance

The Insurer should maintain sound practices and a well-documented corporate governance framework that includes policies of the board of directors, business practices and processes, and suitability standards.

Insurer management will_should have a proven and demonstrable track record of relevant experience, competence, and integrity. Biographical affidavits will be considered as one source for assessing the presence of these attributes. Following the <u>filing of the original</u> required biographical affidavits <u>with the initial application submission</u>, any new or materially modified affidavits (e.g., changes in the suitability of an officer) should be uploaded to <u>OPTins</u> within 30 days of any known amendments. <u>Further</u>, <u>biographical affidavits for any new key officers and directors should be uploaded to OPTins as they are onboardeder where applicable within 30 days of any new key director or officer by the Insurer's domestic regulator.</u>

Market Conduct

The Insurer should maintain sound market conduct practices that comply with contract provisions, laws and regulations. If the Insurer is subject to a market conduct investigation or examination by its country of domicile, a summary of findings along with a letter of explanation should be submitted to the IID within 30 days of the conclusion of the investigation or examination.

D.F. U.S. Branch

An Insurer formed with an existing U.S. branch is prohibited from applying for inclusion on the Quarterly Listing and Insurers currently included on the Quarterly Listing will be de-listed if a U.S. branch is established.

E. Lloyd's Incidental Syndicates

A Lloyd's incidental syndicate is formed as a portion of the host syndicate. The incidental syndicate is subject to the same capital setting and business plan and capital requirements as the host syndicate. Lloyd's incidental syndicates are permitted to apply for inclusion on the Quarterly Listing under the condition that they establish a separate Lloyd's U.S. Situs Excess or Surplus Lines Trust Deed and commit to annual reporting under its incidental syndicate number.

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F. Insurers or Lloyd's Sovereign Government Syndicate Ownership

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An insurer or Lloyd's syndicate (member or managing agent) that is partially or wholly owned (directly or indirectly) or controlled (financially or otherwise) by a sovereign government that applies for inclusion on the Quarterly Listing, must sign and attest to various conditions as outlined within a set of required supplemental filings. The sovereign ownership may not encompass a U.S. sanctioned country per the U.S. Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control.

III. Process for Reconsideration of an Application Rejection

In the event of an application rejection, a written request for reconsideration may be submitted if the Insurer wishes to contest the determination. To request reconsideration, all the following criteria must be met:

- The request must be received by the IID within 30 days of the date on the rejection letter;
- The request must be in letter format and signed by an officer of the Insurer; and
- Each of the rejection letter issues must be addressed with detailed explanations and supporting documentation.

The IID will re-evaluate the application with consideration given to the information provided by the Insurer and all information will be presented to the Working Group to determine a recommendation. The Working Group's recommendation will be presented at a regulator-only Appeal Committee meeting<u>for</u><u>consideration</u>. A representative of the Working Group and the applicant will be allowed to participate. Following review and a determination by the Appeal Committee, the IID will send a letter detailing approval or denial of the request.

If an Insurer does not submit a reconsideration letter within 30 days of the date on the rejection letter, any request for reconsideration is considered waived and the Insurer will be required to submit a new application along with the application fee and all required supporting documentation.

IV. Ongoing Quarterly Listing Eligibility

Insurers included on the Quarterly Listing are subject to ongoing review, which includes annual and interim compliance and qualitative and quantitative analysis.

A. Core Areas of <u>Reporting Requirements</u> Insurer Compliance

Annual Renewal Filing

All insurers/syndicates listed within the Quarterly Listing on June 30 of the renewal year are required to remit an annual fee and file an annual renewal package and must upload all required renewal filing documents to <u>OPTins</u> by June 30. A comprehensive list of required filings can be found within the <u>Renewal</u> <u>Filing Memo & Instructions</u>. Filings submitted subsequent to June 30 will be subject to late fees as defined within the <u>Renewal Filing Memo & Instructions</u>. If an Insurer fails to submit its annual renewal filing by July 31, it may be subject to de-listing.

Notification of Change in Control and Re-Application

Control is presumed to exist if any person, directly or indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing 10% or more of the voting securities of any other person. In the event of a change of control and/or merger, the Insurer must provide notice 30 days prior to the effective date of the transaction. The Insurer must reapply within 45 days following the effective date of the change of control and/or merger of the Insurer to maintain its listing. Failure to provide timely notice and/or reapplication may result in de-listing.

Notification of Decline in Equity (Does not apply to Lloyd's Syndicates)

If the Quarterly Listed Insurer's equity has declined or is expected to decline by 10% or more compared to the most recent year-end or dropped below the minimum standard described in Section II.BA -

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Shareholders' Equity **FundsRequirement**, it must notify the IID immediately with a detailed explanation of the decline and a plan describing the resolution. Failure to provide timely notification may result in delisting as described in *Section V – De-Listing*. If an Insurer is unable to increase equity to the required minimum level within 15 business days of notification, it may be subject to de-listing.

Trust Fund Monitoring

The Quarterly Listed Insurer is required to monitor the trust fund balance and any impact of market fluctuations on the balance to ensure that it meets the minimum balance required. The IID performs a quarterly review of the market value of each Insurer's U.S. trust fund, based on the filing of the trust fund balance report from the trustee, to ensure that it continues to meet the required minimum balance.

B. IID Annual and Ongoing Analysis of Quarterly Listed Insurers

Quarterly Listed Insurers are evaluated on an annual basis and the requirements detailed in Section II -Requirements and Guidelines for Inclusion on the *Quarterly Listing* will be considered as part of that review. Further, tThe IID will analyzes annual renewal and interim Insurer documentation and may request additional information as a result of that analysis. If an Insurer fails to file all additional requested information within the specified timeframe, it may be subject to de-listing. Upon completion of the overall analysis process, the Insurer will be referred to the Working Group for renewal or de-listing. Following review and a determination by the Working Group, a letter will be sent to the Insurer.

C. Examination of Insurer

The IID may recommend that an Insurer submit to a special examination of its affairs to verify continuing compliance. If the Working Group approves the recommendation, the Insurer will be required to submit to a special examination and pay all expenses or it will be de listed.

V. De-Listing

When-If_the IID determines an Insurer is not in compliance with the <u>Plan-minimumand/or the trust fund</u> requirements or <u>there are poses</u>-solvency concerns, the IID <u>may-will</u> present an analysis of the Insurer to the Internal Committee<u>and the Working Group</u> in <u>support of de-listingto determine a recommendation for</u> consideration by the Working Group. Upon determination of non-compliance and/or solvency concerns by the Working Group, the Insurer will be de-listed and notified via letter.

VI. Process for Reconsideration of De-Llisting

In the event of de-listing, a written request for reconsideration may be submitted if the Insurer elects to challenge the determination. To request reconsideration, all the following criteria must be met:

- The request must be received by the IID within 30 days of the date on the de-listing letter;
- The request must be in letter format and signed by an officer of the Insurer; and
- Each of the de-listing letter issues must be addressed with detailed explanations and supporting documentation.

The IID will review the letter response and will present its evaluation to the Working Group for its recommendation. The Working Group's recommendation will be presented at a regulator-only Appeal Committee meeting for consideration. A representative of the Working Group and the de-listed Insurer will be allowed to present. Following review and a determination by the Appeal Committee, the IID will send a letter detailing approval or denial of the request.

If an Insurer does not submit a reconsideration letter within 30 days of the date on the de-listing letter, any

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request for reconsideration is considered waived and the Insurer will be required to submit a new application along with the application fee and all required supporting documentation.

VII. Communication

All communication and information, including financial statements, audit reports, trust fund documents, and other supporting documentation must be submitted in English and uploaded to <u>OPTINS</u>.

VIII. Voluntary Termination from the Quarterly Listing

An Insurer that wishes to voluntarily terminate from the Quarterly Listing may do so by sending a letter tonotifying the IID of that requests termination along with the effective date of the termination. Following termination from the Quarterly Listing, the Insurer must continue to comply with the requirements outlined within the Trust Agreement for Alien Excess or Surplus Lines Insurers.

IX. Confidentiality

The IID will treat as confidential any non-public information submitted by an Insurer and for which confidential treatment is clearly requested. The IID is not aware of any state or federal statutes that provide additional protection for information submitted to it. By submitting information to the IID, the Insurer acknowledges that the IID will share such information with state insurance department regulators as well as NAIC staff who participate in the review of applications and renewals. Additionally, in the event the IID or NAIC is served with a subpoena, motion, order, or other legal process requiring the production of such information or testimony related thereto, the NAIC will make best efforts to inform the Insurer of such third-party request in order to afford the Insurer an opportunity to take whatever action it deems appropriate to protect the confidentiality of its information. The Insurer acknowledges the NAIC may comply with the request and any order compelling compliance with such request.

X. Amendment to the Plan

The Working Group will consider proposals submitted to the IID for modifications to the Plan. All proposals will be considered during open conference calls or meetings of the Working Group throughout the year. A proposal must be complete and concise and include relevant supporting documentation. Proposals exposed and adopted by the Working Group would become effective following adoption by the <u>Surplus Lines (C) Task Force</u> and the <u>Property and Casualty Insurance (C) Committee</u>.

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Attachm	ent Three
Surplus Lines (C) T	ask Force
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Uniform Certificate of Authority Application (UCAA) Uniform <u>Surplus Lines</u> Consent to Service of Process

FEIN:

	Original Designation	 _ Amended Designation (must be submitted directly to states)
Applicant Company	Entity Name:	 (must be submitted directly to states)
Previous Name (if ap	plicable):	
Statutory-Home Offi	ce Address:	
City, State, Zip:		
NAIC Co <u>c</u> Code <u>/Alie</u>	<u>n ID</u> :	

The Applicant Company Entity named above, organized under the laws of _, and regulated under the laws of _ for purposes of complying with the surplus lines laws of the State(s) designated hereunder relating to the holding of a certificate of authority or the conduct of an insurance business within said State(s), pursuant to a resolution adopted by its board of directors or other governing body, hereby irrevocably appoints the officers of the State(s) and their successors identified in Exhibit A, or where applicable appoints the required agent so designated in Exhibit A hereunder as its attorney in such State(s) upon whom may be served any notice, process or pleading as required by law as reflected on Exhibit A in any action or proceeding by the State(s) designated or under a surplus lines policy issued to a policyholder whose "Home State" is such State pursuant to Section 3.J and 9 of the NAIC's Nonadmitted Insurance Model Act (#870)against it in the State(s) so designated; and does hereby consent that any such lawful action or proceeding against it may be commenced in any court of competent jurisdiction and proper venue within the State(s) so designated; and agrees that any such lawful process against it which is served under this appointment shall be of the same legal force and validity as if served on the Eentity directly. -This appointment shall be binding upon any successor to the above named Eentity that acquires the Eentity's assets or assumes its liabilities by merger, consolidation or otherwise; and shall be binding as long as there is a contract in force or liability of the Eentity outstanding in the State. The Eentity hereby waives all claims of error by reason of such service. The Eentity named above agrees to submit an amended designation form upon a change in any of the information provided on this power of attorney.

Applicant Company Entity Officers' Certification and Attestation

One of the two Officers (listed below) of the Applicant An officer of the Entity Company must read the following very carefully and sign:

- 1. I acknowledge that I am authorized to execute and am executing this document on behalf of the Applicant CompanyEntity.
- 2. I hereby certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the applicable jurisdictions that all of the forgoing is true and correct, executed at ______.

Date

Signature of PresidentOfficer

Full Legal Name of PresidentOfficer

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Revised 12/05/2023056/061/2024 FORM 12

Data	Signature of Secretary
Date	Signature of Secretary

Full Legal Name of Secretary

Uniform <u>Surplus Lines</u> Consent to Service of Process Exhibit A

Place an "X" before the names of all the States for which the person executing this form is appointing the designated <u>agent</u> in that State for receipt of service of process<u>with respect to such suits as are specified in this Uniform Surplus Lines Consent to</u> <u>Service of Process</u>:

	AL	Commissioner of Insurance # and Resident Agent*	 MO	Director of Insurance#
	AK AZ	Director of Insurance# Director of Insurance#^	 MP MT NE	Commissioner of Insurance Resident Agent [*] Officer of Company [*] or Resident Agent [*] (circle one)
	AR AS <u>CA</u>	Resident Agent * Commissioner of Insurance # Resident Agent	 NH NV	Commissioner of Insurance-# Commissioner of Insurance-Commission # ^
 	CO CT DE DC	Resident Agent [*] Commissioner of Insurance-# Commissioner of Insurance-# Commissioner of Insurance _a -and Securities and Banking, or the Regulation # or Local Appointed	 NJ NM NY NC	Commissioner of Banking and Insurance #^ Superintendent of Insurance.# Superintendent of Financial Services.# Commissioner of Insurance
_	FL GA	Agent* (circle one) Chief Financial Officer #^ Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire# and Resident Agent*	 ND OH	Commissioner of Insurance#^ Resident Agent≛
	GU HI	Commissioner of Insurance# Insurance Commissioner# and Resident Agent*	 OR OK <u>PA</u>	Resident Agent* Commissioner of Insurance#
	ID IL IN IA KS KY LA	Director of Insurance #^ Director of Insurance-# <u>Commissioner of InsuranceResident Agent*</u> ^ Commissioner of Insurance-# Commissioner of Insurance- Secretary of State-# Secretary of State-#	PR RI SC SD TN TX UT	Commissioner of Insurance # Superintendent of Insurance △ Director of Insurance # Director of Insurance # Commissioner of Insurance # Resident Agent * <u>Commissioner of InsuranceResident Agent</u> * △
	MA MD ME MI MN MS	Commissioner of Insurance Commissioner of Insurance-Commissioner # Resident Agent*^ Resident Agent- Commissioner of Insurance and Resident Agent* BOTH are required.	 VA VT VI WA <u>WI</u> WV WV	Resident Agent [*] Lieutenant Governor/Commissioner# Insurance Commissioner # <u>Commissioner of Insurance</u> Secretary of State-# Commissioner of Insurance-#

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Revised 12/05/2023056/061/2024 FORM 12

- # For the forwarding of Service of Process received by a State Officer complete Exhibit B listing by state the entities (one per state) with full name and address where service of process is to be forwarded. Use additional pages as necessary. Exhibit not required for New Jersey, and North Carolina. Florida accepts only an individual as the entity and requires an email address. New Jersey allows but does not require a foreign insurer to designate a specific forwarding address on Exhibit B. SC will not forward to an individual by name; however, it will forward to a position, e.g., Attention: President (or Compliance Officer, etc.). Washington requires an email address on Exhibit B.
- * Attach a completed Exhibit B listing the Resident Agent for the Applicant Company (one per state). Include state name, Resident Agent's full name and street address. Use additional pages as necessary. (DC* requires an agent within a tenmile radius of the District), (MT requires an agent to reside or maintain a business in MT).
- <u> Initial pleadings only.</u>

MA will send the required form to the Applicant Company when the approval process reaches that point.

 Minnesota does not forward Service of Process. Service of Process must be accomplished using the procedures set forth in MN Stat. § 45.028. Applicant Company should complete Exhibit B to provide a resident agent address that Commerce will keep on file. Resident agent must have a Minnesota address.

	Uniform <mark>Surplus Lin</mark>	ïcate of Authority (UCAA) les Consent to Service of Proc Exhibit B	cess
-	e indicated in Exhibit A:		
State:	Name of Entity:		
Phone Number:		Fax Number:	
Email Address:			
Mailing Address:			
Street Address:			
State:	Name of Entity:		
Phone Number:		Fax Number:	
Email Address:			
reet /	\ddress:		
State:	Name of Entity:		
Phone Number:		Fax Number:	
Email Address:			
Mailing Address:			
Street Address:			
State:	Name of Entity:		
Phone Number:		Fax Number:	
Email Address:			
	t Address:		
State:			
Phone Number:		Fax Number:	
Email Address:			
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Mailing Address:

Street Address:

Exhibit B

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Resolution Authorizing Appointment of Attorney

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors or other governing body of

this	day of	, 20	, that the Presiden	t or Secretary of s	said <u>E</u> entity be	and ar
hereby au	thorized by the Board o	of Directors and directed	d to sign and execute the U	niform <u>Surplus Lin</u>	es Consent to Se	ervice o
Process to	give irrevocable conse	ent that actions by a Stat	e or by a policyholder who	se "home state" is si	uch State under a	a surplu
lines polio	ey issued by or on beha	lf of the CompanyEntit	ty in such State (in accorda	ance with the terms	of this Uniform	Surplu
Lines Cor	nsent to Service of Pro	<u>cess)</u> may be comment	ced against said <u>E</u> entity in	the proper court o	f any jurisdiction	on in th
Setate(s)	of as indicated within E	Exhibit A,				
in which	the action shall arise, or	r in which plaintiff ma v	y reside, by service of proc	cess in the state <u>State</u>	e(s) indicated ab	ove and
	ly appoints the officer(s		d their successors in such o	ffices or appoints th	ne agent(s) so de	signated
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Attachment Four Surplus Lines (C) Task Force 8/13/24



Date: 7/25/2024

To: Surplus Lines (C) Task Force

From: NAIC International Insurers Department

RE: Adjustment to Minimum Qualifying Amounts for Exempt Commercial Purchasers

According to the directive within the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Sec. 527(1)(C)(ii) - Definitions, the minimum qualifying amounts for three categories of Exempt Commercial Purchaser will be amended effective January 1, 2025.

The percentage change calculation and adjusted minimum amounts for the affected categories are shown below:

Consumer Price Index All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) June 2019, 256.143 June 2024, 314.175

Adjustment Calculation: (314.175 - 256.143) / 256.143= 22.7%

Subclause Category	Effective	Adjusted Minimum Effective
	January 1, 2020	January 1, 2025
(I) Net Worth	\$23,781,160	\$29,179,483
(II) Annual Revenues	\$59,452,900	\$72,948,708
(IV) Annual Budgeted Expenditures	\$35,671,740	\$43,769,225

Source: https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CUUR0000SA0

Attachment Five

Draft: 7/22/24 Adopted by the Executive (EX) Committee and Plenary— Adopted by the Property and Casualty Insurance (C) Committee— Adopted by the Surplus Lines (C) Task Force—

2024-2025 Proposed Charges

SURPLUS LINES (C) TASK FORCE

The mission of the Surplus Lines (C) Task Force is to monitor the surplus lines market and regulation, including the activity and financial condition of U.S. and non-U.S. surplus lines insurers participating in the U.S. market_{\perp} by providing a forum for discussion of issues and to develop or amend relevant NAIC model laws, regulations_{\perp} and/or guidelines.

The Surplus Lines (C) Task Force will:

- A. Provide a forum for discussion of current and emerging surplus lines-related issues and topics of public policy and determine appropriate regulatory response and action.
- B. Review and analyze industry data on U.S. domestic and non-U.S. surplus lines insurers participating in the U.S. market.
- C. Monitor federal legislation related to the surplus lines market and ensure all interested parties remain apprised.
- D. Develop or amend relevant NAIC model laws, regulations, and/or guidelines.
- E. Oversee the activities of the Surplus Lines (C) Working Group.

The Surplus Lines (C) Working Group will:

- A. Operate in regulator-to-regulator session pursuant to paragraph 3 (specific companies, entities, or individuals) of the NAIC Policy Statement on Open Meetings and in open session when discussing surplus lines topics and policy issues, such as amendments to the International Insurers Department (IID) Plan of Operation.
- B. Maintain and draft new guidance within the IID Plan of Operation regarding standards for admittance and continued inclusion on the NAIC *Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers*.
- C. Review and consider appropriate decisions regarding applications for admittance to the NAIC Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers.
- D. Analyze renewal applications of alien surplus lines insurers on the NAIC *Quarterly Listing of Alien Insurers* and ensure solvency and compliance per the IID Plan of Operation guidelines for continued listing.
- E. Provide a forum for surplus lines-related discussion among jurisdictions.

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