

Notice of Critical Status for the Colorado Cement Masons Pension Trust Fund

This is to inform you that on March 31, 2022 the plan actuary certified to the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and also to the plan sponsor, that the plan is in critical status for the plan year beginning January 1, 2022. Federal law requires that you receive this notice.

Critical Status

The plan is considered to be in critical status because it has funding problems. More specifically, the plan's actuary determined that the plan was in critical status last year and over the next 9 years, the plan is projected to have an accumulated funding deficiency, including in the current plan year.

Rehabilitation Plan

Federal law requires pension plans in critical status to adopt a rehabilitation plan aimed at restoring the financial health of the plan. The plan has been in critical status for the 2009 through 2022 plan years. The law permits pension plans to reduce, or even eliminate, benefits called "adjustable benefits" as part of a rehabilitation plan. In April 2011 you were notified that the plan reduced or eliminated adjustable benefits. In September 2011 you were notified that adjustable benefits were reduced or eliminated further. On March 17, 2009, you were notified that as of April 2009 the plan is not permitted to pay lump sum benefits (or any other payment in excess of the monthly amount paid under a single life annuity) while it is in critical status. If the trustees of the plan determine that further benefit reductions are necessary, you will receive a separate notice in the future identifying and explaining the effect of those reductions. Any reduction of adjustable benefits (other than a repeal of a recent benefit increase, as described below) will not reduce the level of a participant's basic benefit payable at normal retirement. In addition, the reductions may only apply to participants and beneficiaries whose benefit commencement date is on or after March 17, 2009.

Adjustable Benefits

The plan offers the following adjustable benefits which may be reduced or eliminated as part of any rehabilitation plan the pension plan may adopt:

- Post-retirement death benefits;
- Sixty-month payment guarantees;
- Disability benefits (if not yet in pay status);
- Early retirement benefit or retirement-type subsidy;
- Benefit payment options other than a qualified joint-and survivor annuity (QJSA).

Employer Surcharge

The law requires that all contributing employers pay to the plan a surcharge to help correct the plan's financial situation. The amount of the surcharge is equal to a percentage of the amount an employer is otherwise required to contribute to the plan under the applicable collective bargaining agreement. With some exceptions, a 5% surcharge is applicable in the initial critical year and a 10% surcharge is applicable for each succeeding plan year thereafter in which the plan is in critical status. 2009 was the initial critical year for this plan.

Where to Get More Information

For more information about this Notice, you may contact Southwest Service Administrators, Inc. at 2300 Buena Vista SE, Ste. 127, Albuquerque, NM 87106, (800) 432-6636. You have a right to receive a copy of the rehabilitation plan from the plan.