# **DAVIS-BACON WAGE DETERMINATIONS**

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## DAVIS-BACON ACT, AS AMENDED (Excerpts from 40 U.S.C. § 3142)

The advertised specifications for **every [covered] contract** in excess of \$2,000 . . . **shall contain** 

**a provision stating the minimum wages** to be paid various classes of laborers and mechanics.

... The minimum wages shall be based on the wages that <u>the Secretary of Labor determines to be prevailing</u> for the corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics

employed on **projects of a character similar** to the contract work

in the <u>civil subdivision of the State in which the work is to be</u> <u>performed</u>, or in the District of Columbia if the work is to be performed there.

(Emphasis added.)

## PHYSICAL INCLUSION OF WAGE DETERMINATION(S) IN BID SPECIFICATIONS AND CONTRACT

DOL regulations, at 29 C.F.R. Part 1, establish the procedures for predetermining the <u>wage</u> <u>rates required to be included in bid specifications/contracts</u> for construction projects to which the Davis-Bacon and related Acts apply. (See excerpts, above, from the Davis-Bacon Act.) The Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) also discuss the application of proper wage determinations in 48 C.F.R. Subpart 22.4 -- "Labor Standards for Contracts Involving Construction."

It is important for the actual wage determination(s) to be physically included in the bid specifications/contract. Contractors need to see the minimum wages they will be required to pay while they develop their cost estimates for work to be performed.

It is generally the responsibility of the <u>federal agency</u> that funds or assists Davis-Bacon covered construction:

- ♦ To ensure that the proper Davis-Bacon wage determination(s) is/are applied to such construction contract(s). (See 29 C.F.R. § 1.5, and 1.6(b)),
- ♦ To advise contractors which schedule of prevailing wages applies to various construction items if a contract includes multiple wage schedules.
- To be able/ready to advise contractors regarding the duties performed by the various crafts in the wage determination, if they inquire. If two or more classifications in the applicable wage determination may perform the work in question, an area practice survey may be required. Where the classifications are from a single sector of the industry (union or non-union), data needs to be collected only from that sector of the construction industry (for the type of construction involved). Where union and non-union-based classifications are involved, the data should be obtained from both segments. (See the "area practice" section of the materials under the "DB/DBRA Compliance Principles" tab, below, for a detailed discussion of area practice surveys.)

Questions and disputes regarding the application of the proper Davis-Bacon wage determination(s) to covered construction projects should be referred to the WH Branch of Construction Wage Determinations.

It can be disruptive and costly for an agency to correct a situation where a covered contract is awarded without a wage determination, or with the wrong wage determination (i.e., a wage determination that by its terms or according to the requirements of 29 C.F.R. Part 1, further discussed below, clearly does not apply to the contract). When this happens, **corrective action** is required:

The agency shall terminate and resolicit the contract with the valid wage determination, or incorporate the valid wage determination retroactive to the beginning of construction through supplemental agreement or through change order provided that the contractor is compensated for any increases in wages resulting from such change. The method of incorporation of the valid wage determination and adjustment in contract price, where appropriate, should be in accordance with applicable procurement law. [29 C.F.R. § 1.6(f)].

#### GENERAL AND PROJECT WAGE DETERMINATIONS

The WHD issues two types of Davis-Bacon wage determinations: general determinations, also known as area determinations, and project determinations.

The term "wage determination" includes not only the original decision but any subsequent decisions modifying, superseding, correcting, or otherwise changing the rates and/or scope of the original decision.

#### **General Wage Determinations (GWDs)**

- ♦ GWDs are now in effect nationwide for most counties for each general type of construction building, residential, highway, and heavy. In many areas separate schedules are also issued for sewer and water line construction, for dredging, and for certain other types of projects which would otherwise be categorized as "heavy" construction.
- New **annual editions** of this publication are issued in the first quarter of each calendar year. Each annual edition supersedes the previous GWDs, and the wage decision numbers reflect the year of a new edition.
- Any changes in rates (modifications are made in weekly updates (usually on Friday) to the GWDs and this is reflected in modification record on the determination.
- On September 26, 2005, the Wage Determinations On Line website (<a href="http://www.wdol.gov">http://www.wdol.gov</a>) became the official site for all Davis-Bacon GWDs. This is a free on-line service. The hard copy publication previously available through the Government Printing Office of the Superintendent of Documents is no longer published.

#### **Project Wage Determinations**

Project Wage Determinations are obtained on a case-by-case basis for individual projects where

- ♦ There is no GWD in effect for a county/type of construction needed for an upcoming project, or
- ♦ Virtually all the work on a contract will be performed by a classification that is not listed in the GWD that would otherwise apply **and** bid opening/award has not yet taken place.

To request a project wage determination, a **Standard Form 308 (SF-308)** "Request for Determination and Response to Request" should be used by the agency (normally a federal agency).

- ♦ If the project involves multiple types of construction, the requesting agency should attach information indicating the expected cost breakdown by type of construction.
- ♦ The time required for processing requests for a wage determination varies according to the facts and circumstances in each case. An agency should anticipate that such processing will take at least 30 days.
- ♦ The completed SF-308 should be sent to:

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment Standards Administration, Wage and Hour Division, Branch of Construction Wage Determinations, Washington, D.C. 20210

♦ SF-308's can be downloaded from the "Library" section of the WDOL website (<a href="http://www.wdol.gov">http://www.wdol.gov</a>). The SF-308 is also available at FAR 48 C.F.R. § 53.301-330.

Project decisions are applicable <u>only</u> to the particular project for which they are issued and are **effective for 180 days**. If a project decision is not used in the period of its effectiveness, it is void.

- ♦ Accordingly, if it appears that a wage determination may expire between bid opening and contract award, the agency should request a new project wage determination sufficiently in advance of the bid opening to assure receipt prior thereto.
- However, when due to unavoidable circumstances a project wage determination expires before award but after bid opening (or other date specified in 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(a)(1) for certain HUD programs), an extension of the project wage determination expiration date may be requested from and granted by the WHD Administrator if certain conditions are met. (See "Wage Determination Extensions," below.)

"Special" Project Wage Determinations are issued for retroactive application to covered contracts let without a Davis-Bacon wage determination, or with a wage determination which by its terms or the provisions of 29 C.F.R. Part 1 clearly does not apply to the contract -- for example, if a wage determination for the wrong county or an out-of-date wage decision has been included in an awarded contract, and there was no GWD in effect for the given county and type of construction at the time of contract award. 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(f).

#### MODIFICATIONS AND SUPERSEDEAS DECISIONS

Both GWDs and project wage determinations may be modified or superseded from time to time.

- ♦ Wage determinations are normally updated either:
  - ♦♦ to apply the results of a new survey, or
  - to update union rates to reflect collectively bargained changes in wage and fringe benefit rates (escalators) for classifications for which negotiated rates have been determined to be prevailing (for a given type of construction in the given geographic area).
- ◇ "Modifications" are listed numerically on the wage determination modification record for that year's edition. The date of issuance of the modification follows the modification number. A modification to a GWD replaces the entire GWD that it modifies.

## WAGE DETERMINATION EXTENSIONS AND CLERICAL ERROR CORRECTIONS

#### **Extensions**

Bid solicitation documents must be amended to include modifications to a GWD or a new project wage determination (if the project wage determination expired), unless the contracting/assisting agency requests an extension from and the WHD Administrator grants the extension. An agency may request an extension after bid opening if:

♦ GWD: Award does not take place within 90 days after the bid opening,

or

♦ Project wage determination: The determination expires prior to award.

For certain HUD-assisted projects, different dates apply to when an extension may be requested. 29 C.F.R. §§ 1.6(c)(2)(iv) and 1.6(a)(1), respectively.

A request for an extension must be supported by a written finding, including factual support that the extension is necessary and proper in the public interest to prevent injustice or undue hardship or to avoid serious impairment in the conduct of government business.

Example: A public commission must review bid documents after bid opening and before award, and the prospective bidders have agreed to continue their bids in effect during the review period.

#### **Correction Of Inadvertent Clerical Errors**

Upon his or her own initiative, or at the request of an agency, the WHD Administrator may correct any wage determination if she/he finds that the determination contains an inadvertent clerical error. Such corrections shall be included in any on-going contracts containing the wage determination in question, retroactively to the start of construction, and also in any bid specifications containing the wage determination (for example, after bid opening). 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(d), reiterated in the FAR at 48 C.F.R. § 22.404-7. A WAB decision regarding inadvertent clerical errors may be found at the end of this chapter.

#### **SELECTING THE PROPER WAGE DETERMINATION(S)**

As stated in the DBA (see excerpt quoted on page 1, above), the Act requires the DOL to determine prevailing wage rates for inclusion in covered contracts based upon those paid to "corresponding classes of laborers and mechanics employed on **projects of a character similar to the contract work** in the **civil subdivision of the State in which the work is to be performed**, or in the District of Columbia if the work is to be performed there. . . ."
(Emphasis added.)

A "wage determination" is the listing of wage rates and fringe benefit rates for each classification of laborers and mechanics which the WHD Administrator has determined to be prevailing in a given area (usually a county) for a particular type of construction.

Consider these three basic factors in selecting Davis-Bacon wage determinations:

- 1. Location
- 2. Type of Construction
- 3. Current Wage Determination(s)

#### Location

It is a longstanding practice that Davis-Bacon wage determinations are made on a county-by-county basis. Identify the <u>State and county</u> where the construction work will be performed. In some cases a project may be located in **more than one county and/or State**. In such cases include the proper wage determinations for each county/State where work is to be performed under the contract. The bid specifications must also include instructions specifying the contract work to which each wage determination applies.

#### **Type Of Construction**

"Projects Of A Similar Character"

As a matter of longstanding policy, DOL has distinguished four general types of construction for purposes of making prevailing wage determinations: building construction, residential construction, heavy construction, and highway construction. All Agency Memoranda Nos. 130 and 131 provide guidance in the application of this policy. Generally, for wage determination purposes, a project consists of all construction necessary to complete a facility regardless of the number of contracts involved, so long as all contracts awarded are closely related in purpose, time, and place.

All Agency Memorandum No. 130 -- "Application Of The Standard Of Comparison 'Projects of a Character Similar' Under the Davis-Bacon And Related Acts" provides general descriptions of each general type of construction and includes lists of examples in each general category. In brief:

**Building Construction** includes the construction, rehabilitation and repair of sheltered enclosures with walk-in access for the purpose of housing persons, machinery, equipment, or supplies.

**Residential Construction** includes the construction, rehabilitation, and repair of single family houses, townhouses, and apartment buildings of no more than four (4) stories in height.

**Highway Construction** includes the construction, alteration or repair of roads, streets, highways, runways, parking areas and most other paving work not incidental to building or heavy construction.

**Heavy Construction** is a "catch-all" category which includes those projects which cannot be classified as Building, Residential or Highway. Heavy construction is often further distinguished on the basis of the characteristics of particular projects, such as dredging, water and sewer line, dams, major bridges and flood control projects.

Any questions or disputes regarding the appropriate classification of a project with regard to type of construction should be referred to the WHD for resolution prior to bid opening (or other appropriate wage determination lock-in date; a discussion of "lock-in-dates" may be found in the "Area Practice" section of the "DBA/DBRA Compliance Principles: section of this Resource Book.) A request for a ruling should include a complete description of the project and other relevant information, such as wage payment data from similar construction projects in the local area, documentation of the views of parties in dispute, and other material interested parties wish to have considered. This may be appropriate where questions arise concerning the proper categorization of an entire project or particular portions of a project. (See discussion, below, of when multiple wage schedules should be applied, as compared to when lesser portions of a project will be considered incidental to the main type of construction to be performed.)

#### **Type Of Construction**

"Multiple Types Of Construction" Versus "Incidental Construction"

**All Agency Memorandum No. 131** provides further guidance, particularly on the application of multiple wage determinations for projects that involve more than one type of construction.

♦ Where a project includes construction items that in themselves would be classified differently with regard to type of construction, multiple classification as to type of construction may be justified if such items are a substantial part of the project.

- ♦ The application of wage schedules/determinations for more than one type of construction is appropriate if such items that fall in a separate type of construction will comprise at least 20% of the total project cost and/or \$1 million dollars cost.
- Generally, if such items that in themselves would be classified as a separate type of construction will be less than 20% of the total project cost <u>and</u> will cost less than \$1 million dollars, they are considered **incidental** to the primary type of construction involved on the project, and a separate wage determination is <u>not</u> applicable, unless there is an established local area practice to the contrary.
- Where multiple wage determinations are incorporated into the bid specifications/ contract it is very important also to **provide instructions specifying the contract** work to which each wage determination applies. 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(b), reiterated in the FAR at 48 C.F.R. § 22.404-2.
  - Such instructions are needed, not only when the wage determinations for different types of construction (and/or locations) are in separate "Wage Decisions" but also where wage determinations for various types of construction (and/or counties) have been consolidated into a single "Wage Decision." (This has often been done for administrative convenience in issuing wage determinations.)
  - ♦♦ Because of the complexities in the application of multiple schedules, the contracting agency should consult with the WHD Branch of Construction Wage Determinations to resolve any questions.

#### **Current Wage Determination(s)**

It is the <u>responsibility of the federal agency</u> to ensure that the appropriate <u>up-to-date</u> wage determination is included in the bid/RFP or grant documents, and that <u>modifications</u> are included up to the time of award, or other applicable wage determination lock-in date.

Section 1.6 of Regulations, 29 C.F.R. Part 1 sets forth, in detail, the requirements regarding inclusion of **up-to-date** wage determinations in bid/contract documents:

- As a **general rule**, which particularly affects negotiated contracts (RFP's), the most up-to-date wage determination(s) issued at the time of **contract award** must be incorporated into Davis-Bacon covered contracts. 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(c)(2)(i).
- For contracts entered into pursuant to competitive bidding procedures, an **exception** provides that wage determination updates issued less than **10 days** before the opening of bids shall be effective unless there is not a reasonable time still available before bid opening to notify bidders of the up-date, and a report of the finding to that effect is inserted in the contract file. 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(a)(2)(i)(A).

♦♦ However where a GWD applies, if the contract is not awarded within **90** days after bid opening, modifications to the wage determination(s) must be incorporated into the contract up to award, unless the contracting/assisting agency requests and obtains an extension of the 90-day period. 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(c)(3)(iv).

Similarly, if, due to unavoidable circumstances, a **project wage decision** expires between bid opening and contract award (or other applicable dates for certain HUD projects), the contracting/assisting agency may request an extension instead of a new project wage determination. 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(a)(1).

- ♦♦ Note: For further guidance in the application of other dates to HUD-assisted projects, it is appropriate to contact a HUD labor advisor. See <a href="http://www.hud.gov/offices/olr/laborrelstf.cfm">http://www.hud.gov/offices/olr/laborrelstf.cfm</a>.
- - After bid opening/award of a contract, properly applied Davis-Bacon wage determinations will not be modified, except rarely, such as where a correction of an inadvertent clerical error is issued. 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(b) and (c), reiterated in the FAR at 48 C.F.R. §§ 22.404-2 and 22,404-7. *See also* 29 C.F.R. § 1.6(b)(e), (f) and (g), and FAR at 48 C.F.R. § 22.404-9.
  - ♦♦ With regard to multi-year term contracts, such as are common at military installations, see All Agency Memorandum No. 157. (Also, FAR guidance at 48 C.F.R. § 22.404-12 applies to federal agencies.)

#### **GENERAL WAGE DETERMINATIONS (GWDs)**

#### **How to Locate GWDs**

The WDOL web site (<a href="http://www.wdol.gov">http://www.wdol.gov</a>) contains all current wage determinations as well as previous modifications to the wage determinations (archived wage determinations) and a listing of the wage determinations to be modified in the next publication cycle.

Current, archived or due to be revised Davis-Bacon wage determinations can be found by selecting one of these options from the "Davis Bacon Act" main menu:

- Selecting DBA WDs
- Archived WDs
- WDs to be revised

#### Current GWDs

A current wage determination can be obtained by choosing "**Selecting DB WDs**" from the Davis Bacon Act Main Menu (illustrated below) and then by:

♦ Entering the wage decision number, if known,

OR

- Entering selection criteria, which will automatically select the applicable wage determination by:
  - State
  - County
  - Type of Construction

OR

♦ Browsing by state/territory

Each of these methods is illustrated on the following sample screen.

## By WHD Number

Select DBA WD by number:
(Enter WD number in the following format: two letter abbreviation for the state and the number of the WD. For example, VA3, NOT VA030003 or MD150 NOT MD030150.)
Search
OR
By Selection criteria
State: ALABAMA •
County: All
Construction Type: All Construction Types (Types of Construction Under DBA)
WD Number: AL1
Search
OR
By State
Browse by state/territory.
<u>S</u> earch

#### Previous (Archived) GWDs

A previous modification of a wage determination can be obtained by choosing "Archived WDs" from the "Davis Bacon Act" Main Menu and entering the publication year of the wage determination and the wage determination number as illustrated in the sample screen below).

#### Archived Davis-Bacon Act Wage Determinations

When DBA WDs are revised, the current revision is available on WDOL.gov (<u>Selecting DBA WDs</u>). The old WD is archived on this page.(Archived WDs are for Information Purposes Only: <u>WDOL User's Guide: Sec. C.4.e</u>)

Search: 2007		
Enter a DBA WD Number:		(Enter DBA WD numbers in the
following format: two-letter	abbreviation for the	state, and the number of the WD. For
example, DBA WD "VA0300	003" is entered "VA3	"; DBA WD "MD030150" is entered
"MD150")		

#### Future GWDs (to be revised)

A listing of the wage determinations scheduled to be modified in the next publication cycle can be obtained by choosing "WDs due to be revised" from the "Davis Bacon Act" Main Menu as illustrated below in the sample screen.

#### Davis-Bacon Act Wage Determinations Due To Be Revised

The following DBA General Wage Determinations have been revised or created new and will be available at WDOL.gov on or after October 12, 2007

AL070056 WITHDRAWN CA070001 CA070002 CA070004 CA070009 CA070013

#### **How to Interpret a GWD**

Each wage determination begins with a **cover sheet** that defines its applicability by:

- ♦ The decision number.
- ♦ The number of the decision superseded, if applicable.
- ♦ State(s) covered.
- ♦ Type of construction (building, heavy, highway, and/or residential).
- ♦ County(ies), parishes, and/or city(ies) covered.
- Description of the construction to which the wage determination applies and/or construction excluded from its application.
- A Record of modifications, including the initial publication date, modification numbers and dates.

The cover sheet is illustrated in the sample screen below.

```
______
```

```
General Decision Number: LA070012 08/17/2007 LA12
```

Superseded General Decision Number: LA20030012

State: Louisiana

Construction Type: Heavy

Counties: Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St Bernard, St Charles, St James, St John the Baptist and St Tammany Counties in Louisiana.

HEAVY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (includes flood control, water & sewer lines, and water wells; excludes elevated storage tanks, industrial construction-chemical processing, power plants, and refineries)

Modification Numbe	r Publication Date
0	02/09/2007
1	07/06/2007
2	08/17/2007

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Classifications, Basic Hourly Rates, And Fringe Benefits

In the body of each wage determination is the listing of classifications (laborers and mechanics) and accompanying basic hourly wage rates and fringe benefit rates that have been determined to be prevailing for the specified type(s) of construction in the geographic area(s) covered by the wage determination.

- Classification listings may also include classification groupings, fringe benefit footnotes, descriptions of the geographic areas to which sub-classifications and different wage rates apply, and/or certain classification definitions.
- Above each classification (or group of classifications) listed, an alphanumeric "identifier" and date provide information about the source of the classification(s) and wage rate(s) listed for it. The discussion of "Classification Identifiers," below, focuses on information about the source of a rate (union or non-union).

In wage determination modifications, an **asterisk** ("\*") is used to indicate that the item marked is changed by that modification.

An example of this information is illustrated below:

* PLUMO060-002 06/01/2007  JEFFERSON, ORLEANS, PLAQUEMINES, ST. BERNARD, ST. CHARLES, ST.  JAMES (Southeastern Portion), ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, and ST.  TAMMANY PARISHES  Rates  Fringes  PLUMBER/PIPEFITTER (excluding pipe laying)\$ 24.27  7.18  * PLUM0198-005 07/01/2007  ST. JAMES PARISH (Northwestern Portion): Rates  Fringes  PLUMBER (excluding pipe laying)\$ 21.64  8 6.88  SULA2004-007 05/13/2004  Rates  Fringes  CARPENTER (all other work)\$ 13.75  2.60  Laborers:  Common/Landscape\$ 9.88  Fringes  Common/Landscape\$ 9.88  Fringes  CARPENTER (all other work)\$ 11.24  O.00 Fence\$ 11.24  O.00 Flagger\$ 8.58  Mason Tender\$ 7.00  Pipelayer\$ 9.84  O.00  Pipelayer\$ 9.84  O.00  PIPEFITTER (excluding pipelaying)\$ 17.52  4.51					
PLUMBER/PIPEFITTER (excluding pipe laying)	JEFFERSON, ORLEANS, PLAQUEMINES, ST. BERNARD, ST. CHARLES, ST. JAMES (Southeastern Portion), ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, and ST.				
pipe laying)\$ 24.27 7.18		Rates	Fringes		
ST. JAMES PARISH (Northwestern Portion):  Rates Fringes  PLUMBER (excluding pipe laying)\$21.64 6.88  SULA2004-007 05/13/2004  Rates Fringes  CARPENTER (all other work)\$13.75 2.60  Laborers:  Common/Landscape\$9.88 0.00 Fence\$11.24 0.00 Flagger\$8.58 0.00 Mason Tender\$7.00 0.00 Pipelayer\$9.84 0.00  PIPEFITTER (excluding		\$ 24.27	7.18		
Rates Fringes  PLUMBER (excluding pipe laying)\$21.64 6.88  SULA2004-007 05/13/2004  Rates Fringes  CARPENTER (all other work)\$13.75 2.60  Laborers:  Common/Landscape\$9.88 0.00 Fence\$11.24 0.00 Flagger\$8.58 0.00 Mason Tender\$7.00 0.00 Pipelayer\$9.84 0.00  PIPEFITTER (excluding	* PLUM0198-005 07/01/2007				
laying)       \$ 21.64       6.88         SULA2004-007 05/13/2004         Rates       Fringes         CARPENTER (all other work)       \$ 13.75       2.60         Laborers:       Common/Landscape       \$ 9.88       0.00         Fence       \$ 11.24       0.00         Flagger       \$ 8.58       0.00         Mason Tender       \$ 7.00       0.00         Pipelayer       \$ 9.84       0.00         PIPEFITTER (excluding	ST. JAMES PARISH (Northwestern	•	Fringes		
SULA2004-007 05/13/2004  Rates Fringes  CARPENTER (all other work) \$ 13.75					
Rates Fringes  CARPENTER (all other work) \$ 13.75 2.60  Laborers:  Common/Landscape. \$ 9.88 0.00 Fence. \$ 11.24 0.00 Flagger. \$ 8.58 0.00 Mason Tender. \$ 7.00 0.00 Pipelayer. \$ 9.84 0.00  PIPEFITTER (excluding	laying)	\$ 21.64	6.88		
Rates Fringes  CARPENTER (all other work) \$ 13.75 2.60  Laborers:  Common/Landscape \$ 9.88 0.00 Fence \$ 11.24 0.00 Flagger \$ 8.58 0.00 Mason Tender \$ 7.00 0.00 Pipelayer \$ 9.84 0.00  PIPEFITTER (excluding					
CARPENTER (all other work) \$ 13.75 2.60  Laborers:	SULA2004-007 05/13/2004				
Laborers:  Common/Landscape. \$ 9.88					
Common/Landscape       \$ 9.88       0.00         Fence       \$ 11.24       0.00         Flagger       \$ 8.58       0.00         Mason Tender       \$ 7.00       0.00         Pipelayer       \$ 9.84       0.00         PIPEFITTER (excluding		\$ 13.75	2.60		
Fence		\$ 9.88	0.00		
Flagger	<u>-</u>		0.00		
Mason Tender\$ 7.00 0.00 Pipelayer\$ 9.84 0.00 PIPEFITTER (excluding			0.00		
PIPEFITTER (excluding			0.00		
·		\$ 9.84	0.00		
		\$ 17.52	4.51		

#### **Classification Identifiers (Union and Non-Union)**

The body of each wage determination lists the classifications and wage rates that have been found prevailing for the cited type(s) of construction in the area covered by the wage determination. The classifications are listed in alphabetical order of "identifiers" that indicate whether particular rates are union or non-union rates.

Many wage determinations contain only non-union wage rates, some contain only union-negotiated wage rates, and others contain both union and non-union wage rates that have been found prevailing in the area for the type of construction covered by the wage determination.

#### Union Identifiers

An identifier beginning with characters <u>other than SU</u> denotes that the <u>union</u> classification(s) and wage rate(s) have been found prevailing. The first four letters indicate the international union for the local union that negotiated the wage rates listed under that identifier (see listing below). The four-digit number that follows indicates the local union number.

#### **Example:**

```
PLUM0198-005 07/01/2007
ST. JAMES PARISH (Northwestern Portion):
Rates Fringes
PLUMBER (excluding pipe
laying).....$21.64 6.88
```

The identifier is PLUM0198-005 07/01/2007. PLUM = Plumbers; 0198 = the local union number (district council number where applicable); and 005 = internal number used in processing the wage determination. The date following these characters is the effective date of the most current negotiated rate.

- Special identifiers are necessary for two trades because the same local union number(s) is accompanied by different wage rates in different states. Bricklayers local union numbers are not unique nationwide, but are unique within each State. Similarly, Sprinkler Fitters Local Union No. 699 has negotiated different wage rates in each State within its territorial jurisdiction. Therefore, the identifiers for the Bricklayers unions are in the format "BR + state abbreviation," (referenced below as BRXX), and the identifier "SF + state abbreviation" is used for Sprinkler Fitter Local No. 669's rates.
- It is common for many local unions to negotiate wage rates for more than one classification. Where this is done, all the classifications for which that union's

wage rates are determined to be prevailing will appear under the identifier for that union.

#### **Example:**

The same union may negotiate wage and fringe benefits for painters and glaziers. In such a case, the wage rate for the glazier, as well as that for the painter will be found under an identifier beginning with "PAIN" (if both the union rates were found prevailing for both glaziers an painters). Similarly, users may need to look under an identifier beginning with "CARP" to find not only rates for carpenters, but also those for millwrights, piledrivermen and (marine) divers.

#### Union Identifier Code Abbreviations

Following are the **identifier codes** used to reference the various craft unions. Examples of classifications for which their local unions commonly negotiate wage and fringe benefit rates are shown in parentheses.

ASBE =	International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers
BOIL =	International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, Iron Shipbuilders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers
BRXX =	International Union of Bricklayers, and Allied Craftsmen (bricklayers, cement masons, stone masons, tile, marble and terrazzo workers)
CARP =	United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (carpenters, millwrights, piledrivermen, soft floor layers, divers)
ELEC =	International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

- (electricians, communication systems installers, and other low voltage specialty workers)
- ELEV = International Union of Elevator Constructors
- ENGI = International Union of Operating Engineers (operators of various types of power equipment)
- IRON = International Association of Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers
- LABO = Laborers' International Union of North America

PAIN =	International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades (painters, drywall finishers, glaziers, soft floor layers)
PLAS =	Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' International Association of the United States and Canada (cement masons, plasterers)
PLUM =	United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada (plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters, sprinkler fitters)
ROOF =	United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers
SHEE =	Sheet Metal Workers International Association

#### Non-Union Identifiers

Classification(s) for which the union rate(s) were not determined to be prevailing are listed under an "SU" identifier. SU means the rates listed under that identifier were derived from <u>survey</u> data by computing average rates and are not union rates. (The data reported for such a classification and used in computing the prevailing rate may include both union and non-union data. Note that <u>various classifications</u>, for which non-union rates have been determined to be prevailing, may be listed in alphabetical order under this identifier.

TEAM = International Brotherhood of Teamsters

#### **Example:**

SULA2004-007 05/13/2004	
Rates	Fringes
CARPENTER (all other work)\$ 13.75	2.60
Laborers:	
Common/Landscape\$ 9.88	0.00
Fence\$ 11.24	0.00
Flagger\$ 8.58	0.00
Mason Tender\$ 7.00	0.00
Pipelayer\$ 9.84	0.00

The identifier is SULA2004-007 05/13/2004. <u>SU</u> indicates rates that are <u>not</u> <u>union</u> rates; LA indicates the state of Louisiana; 2004 is the year of the survey and 007 is an internal number used in producing the wage determination.

A 1993 or later date indicate the classification(s) and wage rate(s) under that identifier were issued in the GWD on that date.

### SAMPLE GENERAL WAGE DECISIONS

NV 070010 – Building construction, Carson County, Nevada

&

NV 070026 - Residential construction, Carson County, Nevada

#### DB WAGE DETERMINATIONS

General Decision Number: NV070010 09/21/2007 NV10

State: Nevada

Construction Type: Building

County: Carson City County in Nevada.

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (does not include single family

homes or apartments up to and including 4 stories).

Modification Number Publication Date

09/21/2007

BRNV0013-001 03/01/2006

ges

BRICKLAYER.....\$ 25.71 8.60

\_\_\_\_\_\_

BRNV0013-003 07/01/2007

Rates Fringes

TILE SETTER....\$ 21.99

CARP0971-001 07/01/2007

Rates Fringes

CARPENTER (Including Drywall Hanging, Form Worker, and Metal

Stud Installation)......\$ 26.11 10.24

Zone Pay:

Area 1- All work falling within 50 road miles of either the Carson City Courthouse or the Washoe County Courthouse shall be considered a free area.

Area 2- All work Falling between 50 and 150 road miles of the Washoe County Courthouse shall be compensated at an additional \$2.00 per hour.

Area 3 - All work falling between 150 and 300 road miles of the Washoe County Courthouse shall be compensated at an additional \$3.00 per hour.

Area 4 - Any work performed in excess of 300 road miles of the Washoe County Courthouse shall be compensated at \$4.00 per hour.

#### DB WAGE DETERMINATIONS

ELEC0401-001 12/01/2006

	Rates	Fringes
ELECTRICIAN	\$ 27.60	3%+12.77
ENGI0003-006 07/01/2007		
	Rates	Fringes
POWER EQUIPMENT OPERATOR Base Roller (Ride Along)		
and Paver (Incl. Asphalt) Bulldozer, Loader (up to and including two and one- half [2-1/2] cu. yds.) and		13.65
Scraper Excavator and Grader (Finishing and Non-	\$ 28.93	13.65
Finishing)	\$ 27.62	13.65 13.65
Skid Loader/Bobcat Loader (over four [4] cu. yds. up to and including	\$ 26.88	13.65
twelve [12] cu. yds.) Loader (over twelve [12]	\$ 30.03	13.65
cu.yds.)	\$ 31.67	13.65
cu. yds)		13.65 13.65

AREA PAY (Free Area and Remote Area Rates)

AREA 1 PAY SCALE: All that area falling within fifty (50) road miles of either the Carson City Courthouse or the Washoe County Courthouse shall be considered a free area for the purpose of this agreement.

AREA 2 PAY SCALE: All work falling between fifty (50) and one hundred and fifty (150) road miles of the Washoe County Courthouse shall be computed at an additional \$2.00 per hour.

AREA 3 PAY SCALE: All work falling between one hundred and fify (150) and three hundred (300) miles of the Washoe County Courthouse shall be computed at an additional \$4.00 per hour.

AREA 4 PAY SCALE: Any work performed in excess of three hundred (300) road miles of the Washoe County Courthouse shall be computed at an additional \$4.00 per hour.

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### DB WAGE DETERMINATIONS

	Rates	Fringes
IRONWORKER (Ornamental, Reinforcing, and Structural)	\$ 30.51	20.92
LABO0169-005 10/01/2006		
	Rates	Fringes
LABORER (1) Common or General, Cone Setter		6.87 6.87
Jackhammer, Mason Tender - Cement/Concrete, Plaster Tender, Trencher-hand guided		6.87
(4) Asphalt Dumpman, Pipelayer	\$ 21.75	6.87
(5) Asbestos Removal (Floor, Wall, & Ceiling)	\$ 22.05	6.87
PAIN0567-013 07/01/2007		
	Rates	Fringes
PAINTER  Drywall Finishing  Paperhanger, Spray  Prep, Brush, Roller	\$ 24.29	7.80 7.80 7.80
PLAS0797-003 10/01/2006		
	Rates	Fringes
CEMENT MASON/CONCRETE FINISHER.	\$ 19.76	10.99
PLAS0797-006 07/01/2007		
	Rates	Fringes
PLASTERER	\$ 21.16	10.11
PLUM0350-004 08/01/2007		
	Rates	Fringes
PIPEFITTER (Including HVAC Pipe Installation)		15.02
SHEE0026-001 08/01/2007	<b></b> -	<b></b>
	Rates	Fringes

SHEETMETAL WORKER (Including HVAC Duct Installation and Metal Roof)	\$ 27.57	13.28
SUNV2007-001 08/01/2007	Rates	Fringes
LABORER: Landscape		0.00
LABORER: Mason Tender - Brick.	\$ 15.96	0.00
OPERATOR: Backhoe	\$ 16.67	0.00
OPERATOR: Trencher, Excluding Hand Guided Trencher.	\$ 27.96	0.00
PLUMBER, Excluding HVAC Pipe	\$ 23.31	6.20
ROOFER, Excluding Metal Roof	\$ 14.23	3.03
TRUCK DRIVER: Dump Truck	\$ 16.90	0.00
TRUCK DRIVER: Water Truck	\$ 17.22	2.45
TEAM0533-003 07/01/2006	Rates	Fringes
TRUCK DRIVER  Flatbed		11.64

WELDERS - Receive rate prescribed for craft performing operation to which welding is incidental.

Unlisted classifications needed for work not included within the scope of the classifications listed may be added after award only as provided in the labor standards contract clauses (29 CFR 5.5(a)(1)(ii)).

\_\_\_\_\_\_

In the listing above, the "SU" designation means that rates listed under the identifier do not reflect collectively bargained wage and fringe benefit rates. Other designations indicate unions whose rates have been determined to be prevailing.

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### WAGE DETERMINATION APPEALS PROCESS

- 1.) Has there been an initial decision in he matter? This can be:
- \* an existing published wage determination
- $^{\star}$  a survey underlying a wage determination

- \* a Wage and Hour Division letter setting forth a position on a wage determination matter
- \* a conformance (additional classification and rate) ruling

On survey related matters, initial contact, including requests for summaries of surveys, should be with the Wage and Hour Regional Office for the area in which the survey was conducted because those Regional Offices have responsibility for the Davis-Bacon survey program. If the response from this initial contact is not satisfactory, then the process described in 2.) and 3.) should be followed.

With regard to any other matter not yet ripe for the formal Process described here, initial contact should be with the Branch of Construction Wage Determinations. Write to:

Branch of Construction Wage Determinations Wage and Hour Division U.S. Department of Labor 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20210

2.) If the answer to the question in 1.) is yes, then an
interested party
(those affected by the action) can request review and
reconsideration from
the Wage and Hour Administrator (See 29 CFR Part 1.8 and 29 CFR
Part 7).
Write to:

Wage and Hour Administrator U.S. Department of Labor 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20210

The request should be accompanied by a full statement of the Interested party's position and by any information (wage payment data, project description, area practice material, etc.) that the requestor considers relevant to the issue.

3.) If the decision of the Administrator is not favorable, an Interested party may appeal directly to the Administrative Review Board (formerly the Wage Appeals Board). Write to:

Administrative Review Board U.S. Department of Labor 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20210

4.) All decisions by the Administrative Review Board are final.

END OF GENERAL DECISION

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR PREVAILING WAGE RESOURCE BOOK 2010 DB WAGE DETERMINATIONS

Decision Number: NV070026 10/05/2007 NV26

State: Nevada

Construction Type: Residential

County: Carson City County in Nevada.

RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS (consisting of single family homes and apartments up to and including 4 stories).

Modification Number Publication Date 10/05/2007 0

CARP0971-002 07/01/2007	Rates	Fringes
CARPENTER	\$ 22.89	8.24
ELEC0401-009 12/01/2006		
	Rates	Fringes
ELECTRICIAN		12.77+3%
ENGI0003-025 07/01/2007	Rates	Fringes
POWER EQUIPMENT OPERATOR (1) Paver (including Asphalt), Roller (including Base Finishing/Asphalt Ride		
Along)	\$ 28.34	13.65
1/2 cu. yds		13.65 13.65
(4) Forklift 20 ft and over		13.65
<ul><li>(5) Forklift under 20 ft.</li><li>(6) Loader over 4 cu. yds</li><li>up to and including 12 cu.</li></ul>	•	13.65
yds		13.65
(7) Loader over 12 cu.yds. (8) Loader 2-/12 cu. yds. up to and including 4 cu.	\$ 31.67	13.65
yds	\$ 29.60	13.65
LABO0169-006 10/01/2006		
	Rates	Fringes
LABORER		
<ul><li>(3) Cement Mason Tender,</li><li>Form-Stripping</li><li>(4) Asphalt Dumpman,</li></ul>	\$ 21.50	6.87
Pipelayer	\$ 21.75	6.87

#### DB WAGE DETERMINATIONS

PLAS0797-003 10/01/2007

	Rates	Fringes			
CEMENT MASON/CONCRETE FINISHER	\$ 20.82	11.43			
ROOF0162-003 08/01/2006					
	Rates	Fringes			
ROOFER	\$ 20.52	5.91			
SUNV2007-016 09/14/2007					
	Rates	Fringes			
LABORER: Common or General	\$ 12.38	2.26			
LABORER: Landscape	\$ 7.00	0.00			
OPERATOR: Backhoe	\$ 13.96	0.00			
OPERATOR: Grader/Blade	\$ 25.79	6.34			
OPERATOR: Scraper	\$ 21.53	7.33			
OPERATOR: Trencher, Excluding Hand Guided Trencher	\$ 16.35	0.00			
TRUCK DRIVER: Dump Truck	\$ 17.77	2.42			
TRUCK DRIVER: Water Truck	\$ 17.40	1.98			

WELDERS - Receive rate prescribed for craft performing operation to which welding is incidental.

Unlisted classifications needed for work not included within the scope of the classifications listed may be added after award only as provided in the labor standards contract clauses (29 CFR 5.5(a)(1)(ii)).

\_\_\_\_\_\_

In the listing above, the "SU" designation means that rates listed under the identifier do not reflect collectively bargained wage and fringe benefit rates. Other designations indicate unions whose rates have been determined to be prevailing.

# SAMPLE PROJECT WAGE DETERMINATION REQUEST FORM, SF-308

308-104

NSN 7540-00-105-0078

Standard Form 308 (Rev. May 1985)

U.S. Department of Labor -29 CFR Part 1

#### Request For Wage Determination And U.S. Department of Labor Response To Request Employment Standards Administration Wage and Hour Division (Davis Bacon Act as Amended and Related Statuses) FOR DEPARTMENT Mall Your Request To: OF LABOR USE U.S. Department of Labor CHECK OR LIST CRAFTS NEEDED **Employment Standards Administration** (Attach continuation sheet if needed) Wage and Hour Division Response To Request Branch of Construction Contract Wage Determinations Asbestos workers Washington, D.C. 20210 Use area determination issued for Bollermakers Requesting Officer (Typed name and signature) Bricklavers Carpenters Department, Agency, or Bureau Phone Number Cement masons Electricians Estimated Advertising Date Estimated Bid Opening Date Date of Request Glaziers Type of Work The attached decision noted below Estimated \$ Value of Contract Prior Decision Number (if any) Laborers (Specify classes) is applicable to this project Under 1/2 MII 1 to 5 MII Bldg. Highway 1/2 to 1 MII Over 5 MII Heavy Resid. Decision Number Address to which wage determination should be malled. (Print or type) Lathers Marble & tile setters, terrazzo workers Date of Decision Piledrivermen Plasterers Expires Plumbers Roofers Sheet metal workers Supersedes Decision Number Soft floor layers Steamfitters Welders-rate for craft Approved Truck drivers Location of Project (City, County, State, Zip Code) Power equipment operators (Specify types) Description of Work (Be specific) (Print or type) Other Crafts

\* U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-484-272/39411

## WAGE APPEALS BOARD DECISION – INADVERTENT CLERICAL ERRORS

#### WAGE APPEALS BOARD UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WASHINGTON, D. C.

In the Matter of:

UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPEFITTING INDUSTRY, LOCAL 469

WAB Case No. 90-40

BEFORE: Charles E. Shearer, Jr., Chairman Ruth E. Peters, Member Patrick J. O'Brien, Member

DATED: March 29, 1991

#### DECISION OF THE WAGE APPEALS BOARD

This case is before the Wage Appeals Board on the petition of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry, Local 469 ("Petitioner" or "Local 469"), seeking review of a final ruling by the Acting Administrator, Wage and Hour Division. The matter addresses the question of whether a delay in incorporation of revised collective bargaining pay scales into a wage rate determination constitutes a "clerical error" within the meaning of 29 C.F.R. 1.6(d) and occasions a retroactive wage rate increase. It does not.

On January 13, 1988, Voith Hydro, Inc., was awarded a contract by the Department of the Interior to build, test, and install equipment at the Waddell generating plant in Arizona. The contract contained a wage rate determination containing current collectively bargained rates. Thirty-two days later, on February 14, 1988, the relevant collective bargaining agreement ("CBA") was amended to include a geographic area premium, covering the Waddell site. (FOOTNOTE 1). That amendment was conveyed to Wage and Hour some six months later, on August 25, 1988. On November 6, 1989, and again on January 3,1990, petitioner requested a letter of inadvertence due to clerical error to increase (both currently and retroactively) the wages and fringe benefits applicable to the Waddell project.

The Acting Administrator responded on August 17, 1990, regretting the delay, informing the petitioner of the installation of an automated wage determination generation system designed to improve the timeliness of updating relevant collectively bargained rates, but denying the existence of a clerical error responsible for the delay in amending the determination applicable to the Waddell project.

Section 1.6(d) of the regulations found at 29 C.F.R., permits a retroactive wage increase where an incorrect rate is contained in an area determination as a result of a clerical error. The petitioner concedes the absence of any affirmative conduct constituting an "error." Accordingly, the petition is dismissed for failure to state a cognizable cause of action. See Builders, Contractors and Employees Pension and Retirement Trust, WAB Case No. 90-28 (March 1, 1991).

#### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD:

Charles E. Shearer, Jr., Chairman Ruth E. Peters, Member Patrick J. O'Brien, Member

Gerald F. Krizan, Esq.
Executive Secretary [2]

(1) The Solicitor also argues that the wage rates espoused by Local 469 would not apply to the seven southern counties of Arizona, as that area was located outside 469's jurisdiction. This point was not a basis of the Acting Administrator's decision, nor was it raised in the petition for review. Accordingly, although the Board finds this argument highly persuasive, it need not be reached.