

**Group Life  
Insurance Certificate**

**Cobb Electric Membership Corporation**



## IMPORTANT NOTICES

If you reside in one of the following states, please read the important notices below:

### Arizona, Florida and Maryland residents:

**The group policy is issued in the state of Delaware and will be governed by its laws. If you reside in a state other than Delaware, this certificate of insurance may not provide all of the benefits and protections provided by the laws of your state. PLEASE READ YOUR CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY.**

### California residents:

**FOR CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS: REVIEW THIS CERTIFICATE CAREFULLY. IF YOU ARE 65 OR OLDER ON THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS CERTIFICATE, YOU MAY RETURN IT TO US WITHIN 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE YOU RECEIVE IT AND WE WILL REFUND ANY PREMIUM YOU PAID. IN THIS CASE, THIS CERTIFICATE WILL BE CONSIDERED TO NEVER HAVE BEEN ISSUED**

### Texas residents:

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** To obtain information or make a complaint:

You may call Life Insurance Company of North America toll free telephone number for information or to make a complaint at: **1-800-547-5515**

You may also write to Life Insurance Company of North America at:

Cigna Consumer Advocacy  
Attn: Meredith A. Long  
25600 North Norterra Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85085-8201  
Email: CGIConsumerAdvocacy@cigna.com  
Fax: 646-706-4296

You may contact the Texas Department of Insurance to obtain information on companies, coverages, rights or complaints at: **1-800-252-3439**

You may write the Texas Department of Insurance:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax (512) 475-1771  
Web: [www.tdi.state.tx.us](http://www.tdi.state.tx.us)  
Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us)

### PREMIUM OR CLAIM DISPUTES:

Should you have a dispute concerning your premium or about a claim you should contact the company first. If the dispute is not resolved, you may contact the Texas Department of Insurance.

**ATTACH THIS NOTICE TO YOUR POLICY:** This notice is for information only and does not become a part or condition of the attached document



**AVISO IMPORTANTE:** Para obtener información o para presentar una queja:

Usted puede llamar al número de teléfono gratuito de Life Insurance Company of North America's obtener información o para presentar una queja al: **1-800-547-5515**

Usted también puede escribir a Life Insurance Company of North America al:

Cigna Consumer Advocacy  
Attn: Meredith A. Long  
25600 North Norterra Drive  
Phoenix, AZ 85085-8201  
Email: [CGIConsumerAdvocacy@cigna.com](mailto:CGIConsumerAdvocacy@cigna.com)  
Fax: 646-706-4296

Usted puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas para obtener información sobre compañías, coberturas, derechos o quejas al:  
**1-800-252-3439**

Usted puede escribir al Departamento de Seguros de Texas a:

P.O. Box 149104  
Austin, TX 78714-9104  
Fax (512) 475-1007  
Sitio web: [www.tdi.texas.gov](http://www.tdi.texas.gov)  
Email: [ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us](mailto:ConsumerProtection@tdi.state.tx.us)

**DISPUTAS SOBRE PRIMAS O RECLAMOS:**

Si tiene una disputa relacionada con su prima de seguro o con una reclamación, usted debe comunicarse con la compañía primero. Si la disputa no es resuelta, puede comunicarse con el Departamento de Seguros de Texas.

**ADJUNTE ESTE AVISO A SU PÓLIZA:** Este aviso es solamente para propósitos informativos y no se convierte en parte o en condición del documento adjunto

TL-004426d

**Washington Residents:**

**(In Accordance With WAC 284-23-610, 620, 650, 730)**

The accelerated life benefit in this policy does not and is not intended to qualify as long-term care under Washington state law. Washington state law prevents this accelerated life benefit from being marketed or sold as long-term care.

If an Insured receives payment of accelerated benefits from a life insurance policy, he or she may lose the right to receive certain public funds, such as Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, Supplemental Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), and possibly others. Also, receiving accelerated benefits from a life insurance policy may have tax consequences for the Insured. We cannot give advice about this. The Insured may wish to obtain advice from a tax professional or an attorney before he or she decides to receive accelerated benefits under a life policy.



## NOTICE

**Benefits paid under the Accelerated Benefits provision will reduce the Death Benefit payable for life insurance.**

**Benefits payable under the Accelerated Benefits provision may be taxable. If so, the Employee or the Employee's beneficiary may incur a tax obligation. As with all tax matters, an Employee should consult with a personal tax advisor to assess the impact of this benefit. Accelerated Benefits are not payable if life insurance coverage under the Policy is not in force.**

TL-004788





## **FOREWORD**

Life insurance provides individuals and their families with financial protection. The Life Insurance Benefit described in this booklet will help secure your family's financial security in the event of your death.

The need for life insurance protection depends on individual circumstances and financial situations. This valuable coverage should add an extra dimension to your personal insurance portfolio.

In an effort to make your benefit program more comprehensive and responsive to your needs, your Employer is providing this insurance to you at no cost.



**LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA**  
1601 CHESTNUT STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19192-2235  
(800) 732-1603      TDD (800) 336-2485  
**A STOCK INSURANCE COMPANY**

**GROUP INSURANCE  
CERTIFICATE**

We, the LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA, have issued a Group Policy, FLX-967545, to TRUSTEE OF THE GROUP INSURANCE TRUST FOR EMPLOYERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY on behalf of Cobb Electric Membership Corporation.

This certificate describes the benefits and basic provisions of your coverage. You should read it with care so you will understand your coverage.

This is not the insurance contract. It does not waive or alter any of the terms of the Policy. If questions arise, the Policy will govern. You may examine the Policy at the office of the Policyholder or the Administrator.

This certificate replaces any and all certificates which may have been issued to you in the past under the Policy.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William J. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'W' and 'S'.

**William J. Smith, President**



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## **SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS**

**Policy Effective Date:** January 1, 2017

**Policy Anniversary Date:** January 1

**Policy Number:** FLX-967545

### **Class Definition**

You are eligible for insurance if you are a member of the class defined below.

All Retirees of the Employer who retired prior to January 1, 2010 and were insured under the Prior Plan as of December 31, 2016. (Closed class)

### **Your Eligibility Waiting Period**

The Eligibility Waiting Period is the period of time you must be in Active Service to be eligible for coverage. It will be extended by the number of days you are not in Active Service.

If you were hired on or before the Policy Effective Date:  
No Waiting Period

If you were hired after the Policy Effective Date:  
No Waiting Period

## **LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS**

If an Insured is eligible under one Class of Eligible Employees and later becomes eligible under a different Class of Eligible Employees, changes in his or her insurance due to the class change will be effective on the first date the Insured is in Active Service on or after the first of the month following the change in class.

### **Employee Benefits**

**Amount of Insurance** An amount as on file with the Employer and the Insurance Company.

**Terminal Illness Benefit** You can elect up to 75% of Life Insurance Benefits in force on the date you are determined by the Insurance Company to be Terminally Ill.

TL-004774

## **WHO IS ELIGIBLE**

### **Classes of Eligible Persons**

A person may be insured only once under the Policy as an Employee, even though he or she may be eligible under more than one class.

### **Employee**

If you qualify under the Class Definition shown in the Schedule of Benefits, you are eligible to be insured under the Policy on the Policy Effective Date.

TL-004710-1

## **WHEN COVERAGE BEGINS**

You will be insured for an amount not to exceed the Guaranteed Issue Amount on the date you become eligible, if you are not required to contribute to the cost of this insurance.

If an eligible Retired Employee is:

1. an inpatient in a hospital, hospice, rehabilitation or convalescence center, or custodial care facility; or
  2. confined to his or her home under the care of a Physician
- on the date insurance would otherwise be effective, it will be effective on the date he or she is no longer an inpatient in these facilities or confined at home. If such Retired Employee was covered by the Prior Plan immediately prior to the Policy Effective Date, this provision will not apply to the amount of coverage in effect as of the Policy Effective Date, but will apply to any increase in coverage.

TL-004712

## **WHEN COVERAGE ENDS**

Coverage will end on the earliest of the following dates:

1. the date you are eligible for coverage under a plan intended to replace this coverage;
2. the date we terminate the Policy;
3. the date you are no longer eligible;
4. the day after the end of the period for which required premiums are paid; and
5. the date the Employer cancels participation under the Policy.

TL-004714-1

## **WHAT IS COVERED**

### **LIFE INSURANCE BENEFITS**

#### **Death Benefit**

If an Insured dies, we will pay the Life Insurance Benefit in force for that Insured on the date of his or her death.

TL-004730



**Accelerated Benefits**

Any benefits payable under this and under any similar Accelerated Benefits provision accelerated under a Prior Plan will reduce the Death Benefit payable for Life Insurance. We will deduct from any Death Benefit payable under this Policy, the amount of any similar accelerated benefit paid under a Prior Plan.

Any automatic increases in Life Insurance Benefits will end when benefits are payable under this provision, unless the Insured is determined by the Insurance Company not to be eligible for Accelerated Benefits.

**Terminal Illness Benefit**

We will pay a Terminal Illness Benefit to an Insured who has incurred a Terminal Illness while insured under this provision.

The Terminal Illness Benefit is shown on the Schedule of Benefits.

A claim for a similar terminal illness benefit under a Prior Plan or group policy intended to replace this Policy shall be deemed payable until such time as it is finally determined not to be payable.

***Determination of Terminal Illness***

For the purpose of determining the existence of a Terminal Illness, we will require the Insured submit the following proof:

1. A written diagnosis and prognosis by a licensed Physician; and
2. Supportive evidence satisfactory to us, including but not limited to, radiological, histological or laboratory reports documenting the Terminal Illness.

We may require, at our expense, an examination of the Insured and a review of the documented evidence by a Physician of our choice.

Such proofs must be submitted to us within the period of time provided in the *Proof of Loss* section of the Policy. For purposes of this Benefit, the date of loss shall be the date of first prognosis of Terminal Illness.

"Terminal Illness" means that, due to an Injury or Sickness, the Insured has a prognosis of 12 months or less to live without reasonable prospect of recovery, as determined by us.

***Payment of Terminal Illness Benefit***

The Terminal Illness Benefit will be payable in accordance with the provisions of the *To Whom Payable* section of the Policy.

The Terminal Illness Benefit is payable only once under the Policy in an Insured's lifetime.

***Conditions Applicable to Coverage***

Unless the Insured qualifies for waiver of premium, premium payments must continue to be paid on the full amount of group life insurance, including during any Continuation of Insurance under the Policy, in accordance with the *Premium* section in the *Administrative Provisions*.

The amount of Life Insurance which may be converted under the *Conversion Privilege* cannot exceed the amount of the reduced death benefit payable under the Policy.

Before a Terminal Illness Benefit is paid in a Community Property state, we may require the written consent of the Insured's Spouse.

### ***Exclusions Applicable to Terminal Illness Benefit***

A Terminal Illness Benefit will not be payable:

1. when the Insured has irrevocably assigned group life insurance under this Policy;
2. when all or a portion of group life insurance benefits under this Policy are to be paid to a former spouse as part of a qualified domestic relations order;
3. for any intentionally self-inflicted Injury or Sickness, or suicide attempt;
4. if the Insured's coverage ends under the *When Coverage Ends* provision prior to the prognosis of Terminal Illness;
5. if the required premium is due and unpaid;
6. if this Policy terminates prior to the prognosis of Terminal Illness;
7. if you or the Insured is only provided coverage under the Takeover provision of the Policy (Employees Not in Active Service on the Policy Effective Date); or
8. if the date of first prognosis of Terminal Illness occurs more than 12 months before the submission of the Terminal Illness claim.

TL-004748a

### **Conversion Privilege for Life Insurance**

Each Insured may convert all or any portion of his or her Life Insurance that would end under the Policy due to:

1. termination of employment;
2. termination of membership in an eligible class under the Policy;
3. termination of the Policy.

The Insured may apply for any type of life insurance we offer to persons of the same age in the amount applied for, except you may not:

1. choose term insurance;
2. apply for an amount of insurance greater than the coverage amount terminating under the Policy (also, the conversion policy will not provide accident, disability or other benefits); or
3. apply for more than \$10,000 of insurance if the Policy is terminated or amended to terminate the insurance for any class of Insureds, or the Employer cancels participation under the Policy. Conversion in these cases is only permitted if you have been covered by the Policy or, any group life insurance policy issued to the Employer which the Policy replaced, for at least 3 years.

If the Insured becomes eligible for coverage under any group life policy within 31 days of termination of coverage under this Policy, the Insured may not convert an amount of insurance greater than the amount of coverage terminating under the Policy less the amount for which he or she may be covered under the other policy.

To apply for conversion insurance, the Insured must, within 31 days after coverage under the Policy ends:

1. submit an application to us; and
2. pay the required premium.

Evidence of insurability is not required.

Premium for the conversion insurance will be based on the age and class of risk of the Insured and the type and amount of coverage issued.

If the Insured has assigned ownership of his group coverage, the owner/assignee must apply for the individual policy.

Conversion insurance will become effective on the 31st day after the date coverage under the Policy ends provided the application is received by us and the required premium has been paid.

If the Insured dies during the 31-day conversion period, the Life Insurance benefits will be paid under the Policy regardless of whether he or she applied for conversion insurance. If a conversion policy is issued, it will be in exchange for any further benefits for that type and amount of insurance from this Policy.

#### *Extension of Conversion Period*

If an Insured is eligible for conversion insurance and is not notified of this right at least 15 days prior to the end of the 31-day conversion period, the conversion period will be extended. The Insured will have 15 days from the date notice is given to apply for conversion insurance. In no event will the conversion period be extended beyond 90 days. Notice, for the purpose of this section, means written notice presented to the Insured by the Employer or mailed to the Insured's last known address as reported by the Employer.

If the Insured dies during the extended conversion period, but more than 31 days after his or her coverage under the Policy terminates, Life Insurance benefits:

1. will not be paid under the Policy; and
2. will be payable under the conversion insurance; provided:
  - a. the Insured's application for conversion insurance has been received by us; and
  - b. the required premium has been paid.

#### *Prior Conversion Limitation*

If an Insured is covered under a life insurance conversion policy previously issued by us, he or she will not be eligible for this Conversion Privilege unless the prior coverage has ended.

TL-009740

## **CLAIM PROVISIONS**

### **Notice of Claim**

Written notice of claim, or notice by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, must be given to us within 31 days after a covered loss occurs or begins or as soon as reasonably possible. If written notice, or notice by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, is not given in that time, the claim will not be invalidated or reduced if it is shown that notice was given as soon as was reasonably possible. Notice can be given at our home office in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania or to our agent. Notice should include the Employer's name, the Policy Number and the claimant's name and address.

Written notice, or any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, of a diagnosis of a Terminal Illness on which claim is based must be given to us within 60 days after the diagnosis. If notice is not given in that time, the claim will not be invalidated or reduced if it is shown that written notice, or any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, was given as soon as reasonably possible.

### **Claim Forms**

When we receive notice of claim, we will send claim forms for filing proof of loss. If we do not send claim forms within 15 days after notice is received by us, the proof requirements will be met by submitting, within the time required under the "Proof of Loss" section, written proof, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, of the nature and extent of the loss.

### **Claimant Cooperation Provision**

If you fail to cooperate with us in our administration of your claim, we may terminate the claim. Such cooperation includes, but is not limited to, providing any information or documents needed to determine whether benefits are payable or the actual benefit amount due.

**Insurance Data**

The Employer is required to cooperate with us in the review of claims and applications for coverage. Any information we provide to the Employer in these areas is confidential and may not be used or released by the Employer if not permitted by applicable privacy laws.

**Proof of Loss**

You must provide written proof of loss to us, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, within 90 days after the date of the loss for which a claim is made. If written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, is not given in that 90 day period, the claim will not be invalidated nor reduced if it is shown that it was given as soon as was reasonably possible. In any case, written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, must be given not more than one year after the 90 day period. If written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, is provided outside of these time limits, the claim will be denied. These time limits will not apply due to lack of legal capacity.

Written proof, or any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, of loss for Accelerated Benefits must be furnished 90 days after the date of diagnosis. This proof must describe the occurrence, character and diagnosis for which claim is made.

In case of claim for any other loss, proof must be furnished within 90 days after the date of such loss.

If it is not reasonably possible to submit proof of loss within these time periods, we will not deny or reduce any claim if proof is furnished as soon as reasonably possible. Proof must, in any case, be furnished not more than a year later, except for lack of legal capacity.

**Time of Payment**

Benefits due under the Policy for a loss, other than a loss for which the Policy provides installment payments, will be paid immediately upon receipt of due written proof of such loss.

Subject to the receipt of satisfactory written proof of loss, all accrued benefits for loss for which the Policy provides installment payments will be paid monthly; any balance remaining unpaid upon the termination of liability will be paid immediately upon receipt of due written proof, unless otherwise stated in the Description of Benefits.

**Manner of Payment of Claims**

The Subscriber authorizes that any benefit payment due as a lump sum of \$5,000 or more shall be credited to a draft account with the Insurance Company, in the name of the beneficiary. The beneficiary may withdraw the entire proceeds at any time by issuing one or more drafts, or may withdraw lesser amounts, subject to a minimum account balance set by the Insurance Company from time to time. Interest shall be credited to such account at rates as determined from time to time by the Insurance Company.

**To Whom Payable**

Death Benefits will be paid to the Insured's named beneficiary, if any, on file at the time of payment or to the certificate owner if alive. If there is no named beneficiary or surviving beneficiary, Death Benefits will be paid to the first surviving class of the following living relatives: spouse; child or children; mother or father; brothers or sisters; or to the executors or administrators of the Insured's estate. We may reduce the amount payable by any indebtedness due.

All benefits payable under the Accelerated Benefits section are payable to the Insured, if living. If the Insured dies prior to the payment of an eligible claim for an Accelerated Benefit, benefits will be paid in accordance with the provisions applicable to the payment of Life Insurance proceeds, unless the Insured has directed us otherwise in writing. However, any payment made by us prior to notice of the Insured's death shall discharge us of any benefit that was paid.

All other benefits unless otherwise stated in the Policy, will be payable to the Insured or the certificate owner if other than the Insured.

Any other accrued benefits which are unpaid at your death will, at our option, be paid either to your beneficiary or to the executor or administrator of your estate.

If we pay benefits to the executor or administrator of your estate or to a person who is incapable of giving a valid release, we may pay up to \$1,000 to a relative by blood or marriage whom we believe is equitably entitled. This good faith payment satisfies our legal duty to the extent of that payment.

**Change of Beneficiary**

You may change your beneficiary at any time by giving written notice to the Employer or to us. The beneficiary's consent is not required for this or any other change which you may make unless your designation of beneficiary is irrevocable.

No change in beneficiary will take effect until the form is received by the Employer or us. When this form is received, it will take effect as of the date of the form. If you die before the form is received, we will not be liable for any payment that was made before receipt of the form.

**Physical Examination and Autopsy**

We may, at our expense, exercise the right to examine any person for whom a claim is pending as often as we may reasonably require. Also, we may, at our expense, require an autopsy unless prohibited by law.

**Legal Actions**

No action at law or in equity may be brought to recover benefits under the Policy less than 60 days after written proof of loss, or proof by any other electronic/telephonic means authorized by us, has been furnished as required by the Policy. No such action shall be brought more than 3 years after the time satisfactory proof of loss is required to be furnished.

**Time Limitations**

If any time limit stated in the Policy for giving notice of claim or proof of loss, or for bringing any action at law or in equity, is less than that permitted by the law of the state in which you live when the Policy is issued, then the time limit provided in the Policy is extended to agree with the minimum permitted by the law of that state.

**Physician/Patient Relationship**

You have the right to choose any Physician who is practicing legally. We will in no way disturb the Physician/patient relationship.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS**

### **Premiums**

The premiums for this Policy will be based on the rates currently in force, the plan and the amount of insurance in effect.

If an Insured's coverage amount is reduced due to acceleration of a Death Benefit, premium will be based on the amount of coverage in force on the day before the reduction took place.

### **Draft Accounts**

The Insurance Company shall be entitled to retain, as part of its compensation, any earnings on draft accounts created in connection with benefit claims, in excess of interest credited under the terms of the policy.

TL-004722

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### **Incontestability**

All statements made by the Employer or by an Insured are representations not warranties. No statement will be used to deny or reduce benefits or as a defense to a claim, unless a copy of the instrument containing the statement has been furnished to the claimant. In the event of death or legal incapacity, the beneficiary or representative must receive the copy.

After two years from an Insured's effective date of insurance, or from the effective date of any added or increased benefits, no such statement will cause insurance to be contested except for fraud or eligibility for insurance.

### **Misstatement of Age**

If an Insured's age has been misstated, we will adjust all benefits to the amounts that would have been purchased for the correct age.

### **Workers' Compensation Insurance**

The Policy is not in lieu of and does not affect any requirements for insurance under any Workers' Compensation Insurance Law.

### **Assignment of Benefits**

We will not be affected by the assignment of your certificate until the original assignment or a certified copy of the assignment is filed with us. We will not be responsible for the validity or sufficiency of an assignment. An assignment of benefits will operate so long as the assignment remains in force provided insurance under the Policy is in effect. This insurance may not be levied on, attached, garnisheed, or otherwise taken for a person's debts. This prohibition does not apply where contrary to law.

### **Clerical Error**

A person's insurance will not be affected by error or delay in keeping records of insurance under the Policy. If such an error is found, the premium will be adjusted fairly.

### **Ownership of Records**

All records maintained by the Insurance Company are, and shall remain, the property of the Insurance Company.

TL-004728

## DEFINITIONS

Please note, certain words used in this document have specific meanings. These terms will be capitalized throughout this document. The definition of any word, if not defined in the text where it is used, may be found either in this Definitions section or in the Schedule of Benefits.

### **Employee**

For eligibility purposes, you are an Employee if you work for the Employer and are in one of the "Classes of Eligible Employees." Otherwise, you are an Employee if you are an employee of the Employer who is insured under the Policy. The term includes a retired Employee who satisfies the Class Definition shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

### **Employer**

The Employer who has subscribed to the Policyholder and for the benefit of whose Employees this policy has been issued. The Employer, named as the Subscriber on the front of this Policy, includes any affiliates or subsidiaries covered under the Policy. The Employer is acting as your agent for transactions relating to this insurance. You shall not consider any actions of the Employer as actions of the Insurance Company.

**Insurance Company**

The Insurance Company underwriting the Policy is named on your certificate cover page. References to the Insurance Company have been changed to "we", "our", "ours", and "us" throughout the certificate.

**Insured**

You are an Insured if you are eligible for insurance under the Policy, insurance is elected for you, the required premium is paid and your coverage is in force under the Policy.

**Physician**

Physician means a licensed doctor practicing within the scope of his or her license and rendering care and treatment to an Insured that is appropriate for the condition and locality. The term does not include you, your spouse, the immediate family (including parents, children, siblings, or spouses of any of the foregoing, whether the relationship derives from blood or marriage), of you or your spouse, or a person living in your household.

**Policy Anniversary**

A Policy Anniversary is the date stated on the policy cover and the same date that follows every 12 months for as long the Policy is in effect.

**Policy Effective Date**

The Policy Effective Date is the date stated on the policy cover.

**Prior Plan**

The Prior Plan refers to the plan of insurance providing similar benefits to you, sponsored by the Employer and in effect directly prior to the Policy Effective Date. A Prior Plan will include the plan of an employer in effect on the day prior to that employer's addition to this policy.

To be covered under the Policy, required premium must be paid for all covered Employees.

TL-004708-1



**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION  
for**

**Cobb EMC Group Benefits Plan**

**required by the Employee Retirement  
Income Security Act of 1974**

As a Plan participant in Cobb Electric Membership Corporation's Insurance Plan, you are entitled to certain rights and protection under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

You should refer to the attached Certificate for a description of when you will become eligible under the Plan, the amount and types of benefits available to you, and the circumstances under which benefits are not available to you or may end. The Certificate, along with the following Supplemental Information, makes up the Summary Plan Description as required by ERISA.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLAN**

- The Plan is established and maintained by Cobb Electric Membership Corporation, the Plan Sponsor.
- The Employer Identification Number (EIN) is 58-0198155.
- The Plan Number is 501.
- The Insurance Plan is administered directly by the Plan Administrator with benefits provided, in accordance with the provisions of the group insurance contract, FLX-967545, issued by LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA.
- The Plan Administrator is:       Cobb Electric Membership Corporation  
  1000 EMC Parkway  
  Marietta, GA 30060  
  678-355-3147
- The Plan Administrator has authority to control and manage the operation and administration of the Plan.
- The Plan Sponsor may terminate, suspend, withdraw or amend the Plan, in whole or in part, at any time, subject to the applicable provisions of the Policy. (Your rights upon termination or amendment of the Plan are set forth in your Certificate.)
- The agent for service of legal process is the Plan Administrator.
- The Plan of benefits is financed by the Employer.
- The date of the end of the Plan Year is December 31.

## **WHAT YOU SHOULD DO AND EXPECT IF YOU HAVE A CLAIM**

When you are eligible to receive benefits under the Plan, you must request a claim form or obtain instructions for submitting your claim telephonically or electronically, from the Plan Administrator. All claims you submit must be on the claim form or in the electronic or telephonic format provided by the Insurance Company. You must complete your claim according to directions provided by the Insurance Company. If these forms or instructions are not available, you must provide a written statement of proof of loss. After you have completed the claim form or written statement, you must submit it to the Plan Administrator.

The Plan Administrator has appointed the Insurance Company as the named fiduciary for adjudicating claims for benefits under the Plan, and for deciding any appeals of denied claims. The Insurance Company shall have the authority, in its discretion, to interpret the terms of the Plan, to decide questions of eligibility for coverage or benefits under the Plan, and to make any related findings of fact. All decisions made by the Insurance Company shall be final and binding on Participants and Beneficiaries to the full extent permitted by law.

The Insurance Company has 45 days from the date it receives your claim for disability benefits, or 90 days from the date it receives a claim for any other benefit, to determine whether or not benefits are payable to you in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Policy. The Insurance Company may require more time to review your claim if necessary due to circumstances beyond its control. If this should happen, the Insurance Company must notify you in writing that its review period has been extended for up to two additional periods of 30 days ( in the case of a claim for disability benefits), or one additional period of 90 days (in the case of any other benefit). If this extension is made because you must furnish additional information, these extension periods will begin when the additional information is received. You have up to 45 days to furnish the requested information.

During the review period, the Insurance Company may require a medical examination of the Insured, at its own expense; or additional information regarding the claim. If a medical examination is required, the Insurance Company will notify you of the date and time of the examination and the physician's name and location. It is important that you keep any appointments made since rescheduling examinations will delay the claim process. If additional information is required, the Insurance Company must notify you, in writing, stating the information needed and explaining why it is needed.

If your claim is approved, you will receive the appropriate benefit from the Insurance Company.

If your claim is denied, in whole or in part, you must receive a written notice from the Insurance Company within the review period. The Insurance Company's written notice must include the following information:

1. The specific reason(s) the claim was denied.
2. Specific reference to the Policy provision(s) on which the denial was based.
3. Any additional information required for your claim to be reconsidered, and the reason this information is necessary.
4. In the case of any claim for a disability benefit, identification of any internal rule, guideline or protocol relied on in making the claim decision, and an explanation of any medically-related exclusion or limitation involved in the decision.
5. A statement informing you of your right to appeal the decision, and an explanation of the appeal procedure, including a statement of your right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA if your appeal is denied.

## **Appeal Procedure for Denied Claims**

Whenever a claim is denied, you have the right to appeal the decision. You (or your duly authorized representative) must make a written request for appeal to the Insurance Company within 60 days (180 days in the case of any claim for disability benefits) from the date you receive the denial. If you do not make this request within that time, you will have waived your right to appeal.

Once your request has been received by the Insurance Company, a prompt and complete review of your claim must take place. This review will give no deference to the original claim decision, and will not be made by the person who made the initial claim decision. During the review, you (or your duly authorized representative) have the right to review any documents that have a bearing on the claim, including the documents which establish and control the Plan. Any medical or vocational experts consulted by the Insurance Company will be identified. You may also submit issues and comments that you feel might affect the outcome of the review.

The Insurance Company has 60 days from the date it receives your request to review your claim and notify you of its decision (45 days, in the case of any claim for disability benefits). Under special circumstances, the Insurance Company may require more time to review your claim. If this should happen, the Insurance Company must notify you, in writing, that its review period has been extended for an additional 60 days (45 days in the case of any claim for disability benefits). Once its review is complete, the Insurance Company must notify you, in writing, of the results of the review and indicate the Plan provisions upon which it based its decision.

## **YOUR RIGHTS AS SET FORTH BY ERISA**

As a participant in Cobb Electric Membership Corporation's Insurance Plan you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

### **Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits**

Examine, without charge, at the plan administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefit Security Administration.

Obtain, upon written request to the plan administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

Receive a summary of the plan's annual financial report. The plan administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

### **Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries**

In addition to creating rights for plan participants ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit plan. The people who operate your plan, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

## **Enforce Your Rights**

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. If it should happen that plan fiduciaries misuse the plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

## **Assistance with Your Questions**

If you have any questions about your plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the plan administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefit Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefit Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefit Security Administration.

ER-03-1

**STATE MODIFYING PROVISIONS AMENDMENT RIDER**

Subscriber: Cobb Electric Membership Corporation  
Policy No. FLX-967545  
Amendment Effective Date: January 1, 2017

This amendment is attached to and made part of the Policy/Certificate specified above. Its provisions are intended to conform this Policy/Certificate to the laws of the state in which the insured resides.

The Policy delivered under the Group Policy are amended as follows:

**APPLICABLE TO CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS:**

**1. Conversion Privilege for Life Insurance**

Insured Employees and Insured Spouses may convert to an individual policy of life insurance for an amount not greater than the Conversion Amount shown below when the Policy ends, without regard to any requirement that the person be insured under the policy for a specified period of time, if all of the following apply.

- a. The Insured became Totally Disabled while covered for the Life Benefit of the Policy. Totally Disabled means the person is unable to perform all the material duties of any occupation for which he or she may reasonably be qualified based on training, education and experience.
- b. The Insured remained Totally Disabled until the Policy ended while covered for the Life Benefit of this Policy.
- c. The Policy does not provide a Waiver of Premium, Extended Death Benefit Provision or monthly payments to Totally Disabled Insureds for the Life Benefit.
- d. The person meets all other conditions for converting the insurance.

Conversion Amount - Insured's life insurance amount under the Policy on the date the Policy ends minus the amount for which the Insured is insured under a group policy that provides life coverage to employees of the Insured Employee's Employer covered under this Policy. The dollar limit that applies to the amount for conversion at Policy termination does not apply.

The requirement that the Insured be covered under the Policy for the stated number of years in order to convert life insurance does not apply.

**APPLICABLE TO FLORIDA RESIDENTS:**

The benefits of the policy providing your coverage are governed primarily by the law of a state other than Florida.

**APPLICABLE TO MARYLAND RESIDENTS:**

The Group Insurance Policy was issued in a jurisdiction other than Maryland and may not provide all of the benefits required by Maryland law.

## **APPLICABLE TO MINNESOTA RESIDENTS:**

The following “Continuation of Life Insurance” provision is applicable to Minnesota residents if the Employer has a minimum of 25 Employees who reside in Minnesota, the Minnesota Employees represent at least 25% of all covered Employees under the Policy, and the Policy does not offer Portability.

**Continuation Of Life Insurance** – This provision shall not apply to the extent that the Policy provides for the right of Employees to continue insurance on a direct billed basis following termination of employment (Portability).

This provision shall apply with respect to Employees whose coverage under the Policy is terminated due to: (i) voluntary or involuntary termination or layoff from employment, for any reason other than gross misconduct; or (ii) reduction in hours such that the Employee is not eligible for insurance under the Policy. This provision shall only apply to Employees who, on such date, are Minnesota residents.

This provision shall also apply with respect to Employees whose coverage under the Policy’s Takeover Provision ends, for any reason other than the Employee meeting the Policy’s Active Service requirement.

For those *Employees subject to* this provision, life insurance coverage may be continued under the Policy for 18 months or until the date that the Employee becomes covered under another group policy, whichever is shorter. Coverage provided under this provision will also end if the Policy is terminated.

The premium required for continued coverage shall be the premium under the Policy applicable to the Employee’s class and amount of coverage. The Employer may charge an additional amount, not to exceed 2% of such premium, for collecting premium contributions from former Employees. The Employer shall notify the Employee of the right to continue and the required premium contribution. The Employee may elect to continue within 60 days of termination by paying the required premium, and may continue coverage in force by paying the required premium, without demand, on a monthly basis, as of the first of each month, to the Employer. Coverage will end at the end of any month in which the Employee has failed to pay premium to the Employer.

If continued coverage remains in force at the end of the 18 month period, or on termination of the Policy, the Employee may choose any conversion right then available under the Policy.

In the event the Employee dies during the 60 day right to elect period without having become insured under another group policy, or dies while continued coverage is in force, the death benefit will be paid to the beneficiary chosen by the Employee under the terms of the Policy.

Continued coverage will include eligible dependents who were covered on the Employee’s date of termination, provided the dependent remains eligible as a dependent of the Employee. In the event that the dependent ceases to be eligible, the dependent may choose any conversion right then available under the Policy.

## **APPLICABLE TO NORTH DAKOTA RESIDENTS:**

The Suicide exclusion, if any, is limited to one year from the effective date of insurance. The suicide exclusion with respect to any increase in death benefits which results from an application of the insured subsequent to the effective date, if any, is limited to one year from the effective date of the increase.

**APPLICABLE TO WASHINGTON RESIDENTS:**

1. The following *Continuation of Insurance* provision is added to the Policy:

**Continuation of Life Coverage During Labor Disputes**

If an Employee's Active Service ends because of a Labor Dispute and his or her premium for Life Insurance Benefits under the Policy is paid either by the Employer, in whole or in part, or by the Employee through payroll deductions, then the Employee may continue his or her Life Insurance Benefits. The Employer will send written notice of the right to continue coverage to each insured Employee at his or her most recent address as on file with the Employer.

To continue coverage, the Employee must pay premiums directly to the Employer, who will remit the premiums to the Insurance Company. Premiums must be paid by the date they are due, subject to the 31 day grace period. Policy coverages and premiums will stay the same during a Labor Dispute; however, the Insurance Company may make normal changes in premium rates when the Policy is renewed, under the terms set forth in the Policy.

Coverage continued in this manner will end on the earliest of the following dates.

- a. The date the Labor Dispute has ended.
- b.. The date coverage has been continued for 6 months.

If the Labor Dispute continues beyond 6 months, the Employee may apply for an individual insurance policy, as set forth in detail under "Conversion Privilege for Life Insurance."

"Labor Dispute," as used here, means a strike, lockout, or other labor dispute between the Employer and its Employees, during which time the Employee is not paid by the Employer.

2. To the extent the policy includes *Accelerated Benefits*, the following resolution of disputes requirements are added to the Policy.

- For Terminal Illness – *Determination of Terminal Illness*

In the event the Physician representing the Insurance Company disputes the existence of a Terminal Illness, and the dispute cannot be resolved, the Insured has the right to mediation and binding arbitration in accordance with Washington Administrative Code 284-23-730.

3. The *Incontestability Provision* is replaced as follows:

**Incontestability**

All statements made by the Employer or by an Insured are representations not warranties. No statement will be used to deny or reduce benefits or as a defense to a claim, unless a copy of the instrument containing the statement has been furnished to the claimant. In the event of death or legal incapacity, the beneficiary or representative must receive the copy.

After two years from an Insured's effective date of insurance, or from the effective date of any added or increased benefits, no such statement will cause insurance to be contested.

Signed for the  
**Life Insurance Company of North America**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William J. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'W' and 'S'.

**William J. Smith, President**

TL-00-3000.00





**UNDERWRITTEN BY:  
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA  
a Cigna company**

Class 3  
07/2018

