

(B) the product of—

(i) the number of contribution base units for which the employer would have been required to make contributions for the prior plan year if the employer had not withdrawn, multiplied by

(ii) the contribution rate for the plan year which would be required to meet the amortization schedules contained in section 1423(d)(3)(B)(ii)<sup>1</sup> of this title (determined without regard to any limitation on such rate otherwise provided by this subchapter)

except that an employer shall not be required to pay an amount in excess of the withdrawal liability computed with interest; and

(2) the withdrawal liability of an employer who withdraws after December 31, 1983, as a result of a termination described in section 1341a(a)(2) of this title which is agreed to by the labor organization that appoints the employee representative on the joint board of trustees which sponsors the plan, shall be determined under subsection (c) of this section if—

(A) as a result of prior employer withdrawals in any plan year commencing after January 1, 1980, the number of contribution base units is reduced to less than 67 percent of the average number of such units for the calendar years 1974 through 1979; and

(B) at least 50 percent of the withdrawal liability attributable to the first 33 percent decline described in subparagraph (A) has been determined by the plan sponsor to be uncollectible within the meaning of regulations of the corporation of general applicability; and

(C) the rate of employer contributions under the plan for each plan year following the first plan year beginning after September 26, 1980 and preceding the termination date equals or exceeds the rate described in section 1423(d)(3)<sup>1</sup> of this title.

**(b) Covered plans**

A plan is described in this subsection if—

(1) it is a plan described in section 404(c) of title 26 or a continuation thereof; and

(2) participation in the plan is substantially limited to individuals who retired prior to January 1, 1976.

**(c) Amount of liability of employer; “a year of signatory service” defined**

(1) The amount of an employer’s liability under this paragraph is the product of—

(A) the amount of the employer’s withdrawal liability determined without regard to this section, and

(B) the greater of 90 percent, or a fraction—

(i) the numerator of which is an amount equal to the portion of the plan’s unfunded vested benefits that is attributable to plan participants who have a total of 10 or more years of signatory service, and

(ii) the denominator of which is an amount equal to the total unfunded vested benefits of the plan.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the term “a year of signatory service” means a year during any portion of which a participant was employed for an employer who was obligated to contribute in that year, or who was subsequently obligated to contribute.

(Pub. L. 93-406, title IV, § 4216, as added Pub. L. 96-364, title I, § 104(2), Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1234.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1423 of this title, referred to in subsec. (a)(1)(B)(ii), (2)(C), was repealed by Pub. L. 113-235, div. O, title I, § 108(a)(1), Dec. 16, 2014, 128 Stat. 2786.

**§ 1397. Application of part in case of certain pre-1980 withdrawals; adjustment of covered plan**

(a) For the purpose of determining the amount of unfunded vested benefits allocable to an employer for a partial or complete withdrawal from a plan which occurs after September 25, 1980, and for the purpose of determining whether there has been a partial withdrawal after such date, the amount of contributions, and the number of contribution base units, of such employer properly allocable—

(1) to work performed under a collective bargaining agreement for which there was a permanent cessation of the obligation to contribute before September 26, 1980, or

(2) to work performed at a facility at which all covered operations permanently ceased before September 26, 1980, or for which there was a permanent cessation of the obligation to contribute before that date,

shall not be taken into account.

(b) A plan may, in a manner not inconsistent with regulations, which shall be prescribed by the corporation, adjust the amount of unfunded vested benefits allocable to other employers under a plan maintained by an employer described in subsection (a) of this section.

(Pub. L. 93-406, title IV, § 4217, as added Pub. L. 96-364, title I, § 104(2), Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1235; amended Pub. L. 98-369, div. A, title V, § 558(b)(1)(A), (B), July 18, 1984, 98 Stat. 899.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 98-369, § 558(b)(1)(A), (B), substituted “September 25, 1980” for “April 28, 1980” in provisions preceding par. (1) and “September 26, 1980” for “April 29, 1980” in pars. (1) and (2).

**§ 1398. Withdrawal not to occur because of change in business form or suspension of contributions during labor dispute**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, an employer shall not be considered to have withdrawn from a plan solely because—

(1) an employer ceases to exist by reason of—

(A) a change in corporate structure described in section 1369(b) of this title, or

(B) a change to an unincorporated form of business enterprise,

if the change causes no interruption in employer contributions or obligations to contribute under the plan, or

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

(2) an employer suspends contributions under the plan during a labor dispute involving its employees.

For purposes of this part, a successor or parent corporation or other entity resulting from any such change shall be considered the original employer.

(Pub. L. 93-406, title IV, § 4218, as added Pub. L. 96-364, title I, § 104(2), Sept. 26, 1980, 94 Stat. 1236; amended Pub. L. 99-514, title XVIII, § 1879(u)(4), as added Pub. L. 101-239, title VII, § 7862(b)(1)(C), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2432; Pub. L. 101-239, title VII, § 7893(f), Dec. 19, 1989, 103 Stat. 2447.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1989—Par. (1)(A). Pub. L. 101-239, § 7893(f), made identical amendment to that of Pub. L. 99-514, § 1879(u)(4), as added by Pub. L. 101-239, § 7862(b)(1)(C), see below.

Pub. L. 101-239, § 7862(b)(1)(C), added Pub. L. 99-514, § 1879(u)(4), see 1986 Amendment note below.

1986—Par. (1)(A). Pub. L. 99-514, § 1879(u)(4), as added by Pub. L. 101-239, § 7862(b)(1)(C), substituted “section 1369(b) of this title” for “section 1362(d) of this title”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1989 AMENDMENT

Amendment by section 7862(b)(1)(C) of Pub. L. 101-239 effective as if included in the provision of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-514, to which such amendment relates, see section 7863 of Pub. L. 101-239, set out as a note under section 106 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

Amendment by section 7893(f) of Pub. L. 101-239 effective as if included in the provision of the Single-Employer Pension Plan Amendments Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-272, title XI, to which such amendment relates, see section 7893(h) of Pub. L. 101-239, set out as a note under section 1002 of this title.

#### PLAN AMENDMENTS NOT REQUIRED UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1989

For provisions directing that if any amendments made by subtitle A or subtitle C of title XI [§§ 1101-1147 and 1171-1177] or title XVIII [§§ 1800-1899A] of Pub. L. 99-514 require an amendment to any plan, such plan amendment shall not be required to be made before the first plan year beginning on or after Jan. 1, 1989, see section 1140 of Pub. L. 99-514, as amended, set out as a note under section 401 of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

### § 1399. Notice, collection, etc., of withdrawal liability

#### (a) Furnishing of information by employer to plan sponsor

An employer shall, within 30 days after a written request from the plan sponsor, furnish such information as the plan sponsor reasonably determines to be necessary to enable the plan sponsor to comply with the requirements of this part.

#### (b) Notification, demand for payment, and review upon complete or partial withdrawal by employer

(1) As soon as practicable after an employer's complete or partial withdrawal, the plan sponsor shall—

(A) notify the employer of—

- (i) the amount of the liability, and
- (ii) the schedule for liability payments, and

(B) demand payment in accordance with the schedule.

(2)(A) No later than 90 days after the employer receives the notice described in paragraph (1), the employer—

(i) may ask the plan sponsor to review any specific matter relating to the determination of the employer's liability and the schedule of payments,

(ii) may identify any inaccuracy in the determination of the amount of the unfunded vested benefits allocable to the employer, and

(iii) may furnish any additional relevant information to the plan sponsor.

(B) After a reasonable review of any matter raised, the plan sponsor shall notify the employer of—

(i) the plan sponsor's decision,

(ii) the basis for the decision, and

(iii) the reason for any change in the determination of the employer's liability or schedule of liability payments.

#### (c) Payment requirements; amount, etc.

(1)(A)(i) Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (D) of this paragraph and in paragraphs (4) and (5), an employer shall pay the amount determined under section 1391 of this title, adjusted if appropriate first under section 1389 of this title and then under section 1386 of this title over the period of years necessary to amortize the amount in level annual payments determined under subparagraph (C), calculated as if the first payment were made on the first day of the plan year following the plan year in which the withdrawal occurs and as if each subsequent payment were made on the first day of each subsequent plan year. Actual payment shall commence in accordance with paragraph (2).

(ii) The determination of the amortization period described in clause (i) shall be based on the assumptions used for the most recent actuarial valuation for the plan.

(B) In any case in which the amortization period described in subparagraph (A) exceeds 20 years, the employer's liability shall be limited to the first 20 annual payments determined under subparagraph (C).

(C)(i) Except as provided in subparagraph (E), the amount of each annual payment shall be the product of—

(I) the average annual number of contribution base units for the period of 3 consecutive plan years, during the period of 10 consecutive plan years ending before the plan year in which the withdrawal occurs, in which the number of contribution base units for which the employer had an obligation to contribute under the plan is the highest, and

(II) the highest contribution rate at which the employer had an obligation to contribute under the plan during the 10 plan years ending with the plan year in which the withdrawal occurs.

For purposes of the preceding sentence, a partial withdrawal described in section 1385(a)(1) of this title shall be deemed to occur on the last day of the first year of the 3-year testing period described in section 1385(b)(1)(B)(i) of this title.

(ii)(I) A plan may be amended to provide that for any plan year ending before 1986 the amount of each annual payment shall be (in lieu of the