

# EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

90 State House Square Hartford, CT 06103 860.525.5065 fax 860.527.4198 eapdlaw.com

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Charles R. Welsh  
860.541.7762  
fax 860.527.4198  
cwwelsh@eapdlaw.com  
WISCONSIN COMMISSIONER  
OF INSURANCE

January 23, 2007

*Via Federal Express*

The Honorable Sean Dilweg  
Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance  
125 South Webster Street  
Madison, WI 53702

Attn: Mr. Tim Vande Hey, CFE  
Insurance Financial Examiner  
Bureau of Financial Analysis and Examinations

**Re: Form A Statement of QBE Reinsurance Corporation and QBE Insurance Group Limited Regarding the Proposed Acquisition of Control of or Merger with General Casualty Company of Wisconsin, Blue Ridge Indemnity Company, Blue Ridge Insurance Company, MassWest Insurance Company Inc., Regent Insurance Company, Southern Guaranty Insurance Company, Southern Pilot Insurance Company and Southern Fire & Casualty Company (together, the "Insurers")**

Dear Commissioner Dilweg:

On behalf of our client, QBE Reinsurance Corporation and QBE Insurance Group Limited (together, the "Applicant"), enclosed please find an original complete copy of the Form A Information Statement ("Form A") to be filed in connection with the Applicant's proposed acquisition of control of the Insurers.

As more fully described in the Form A and the exhibits attached thereto, the Applicant proposes to acquire control of the Insurers pursuant to the terms and conditions of a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated January 4, 2007, by and between Winterthur Schweizerische Versicherungs-Gesellschaft, a Swiss stock corporation, and the Applicant.

In connection with the Applicant's filing of this Form A, the Applicant is submitting biographical affidavits ("Affidavits"), attached thereto as Exhibit E, to be reviewed by the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (the "Office"). The Applicant requests that the Office treat all information disclosed within such Affidavits as confidential and in such a manner that the Affidavits of any persons signing such document will not be disclosed to the public without the prior written consent of the individual named in such document.

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Please note that we have also enclosed a duplicate copy of this transmittal letter. Kindly date-stamp and sign the copy of the letter as an acknowledgment of receipt and return the signed copy to us in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope.

As always, if you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either me, at the above-referenced telephone number, or my colleague, John N. Emmanuel, at 860.541.7722.

Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature of Charles R. Welsh in cursive script.

Charles R. Welsh

Enclosures

cc: Duncan A. Ramsay, Esquire (without enclosures)  
Mr. Peter T. Maloney (with enclosures)  
Alan J. Levin, Esquire (without enclosures)  
John N. Emmanuel, Esquire (without enclosures)