

## Price Waterhouse LLP



### Report of Independent Accountants

To the Inspector General  
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial condition as of September 30, 1997 and 1996, of the Single-Employer and Multiemployer Funds administered by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC or the Corporation) and the related statements of operations and changes in net position and statements of cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of PBGC's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Single-Employer and Multiemployer Funds administered by PBGC at September 30, 1997 and 1996, and the results of their operations and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

By law, PBGC's Single-Employer Fund (the Fund) must be self-sustaining and as such, its premiums must be sufficient to cover both its short and long-term obligations. The Fund is able to meet its short-term benefit obligations and internal analyses indicate that the combined effect of future premium revenue and reduced underfunding of single-employer plans may allow the Fund to meet its future obligations as well. While the Fund's Statement of Financial Condition reports a net position (assets in excess of liabilities) of \$3.5 billion at September 30, 1997, losses that are "reasonably possible" as a result of unfunded vested benefits are estimated to be in the range of \$21 billion to \$23 billion, as discussed in Note 9. To the extent contingent losses currently classified as "reasonably possible" become more likely, such as from deteriorating economic conditions or from insolvency of a large plan sponsor, the Fund's net position could be depleted.

The overview of PBGC, the Actuarial Valuation, and other supplemental information contain a wide range of data, some of which are not directly related to the principal financial statements. We do not express an overall opinion on this information. However, we compared this information for consistency with the principal financial statements and discussed the methods of measurement and presentation with PBGC officials. Based on this limited work, we found no material inconsistencies with the principal financial statements.

In addition, in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have issued reports dated January 30, 1998 on PBGC management's assertion about the effectiveness of its internal controls and on its compliance with laws and regulations.

*Price Waterhouse LLP*

January 30, 1998  
Arlington, Virginia