

United States of America

Department of the Treasury



Certificate of Authority

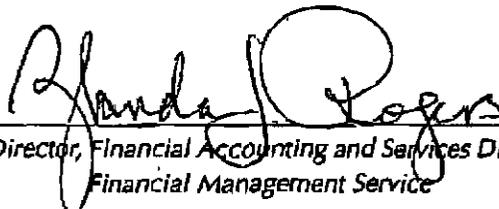
Set forth this day: MAR 2 2001

That, whereas, WEST BEND MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

of West Bend, Wisconsin, has been duly incorporated under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Wisconsin, possesses appropriate corporate powers, has a paid-up capital of not less than \$250,000, in cash or its equivalent, appears to be able to keep and perform its contracts, and has otherwise complied with the conditions prescribed by laws and regulations authorizing certain corporations to be accepted as sole sureties on obligations given to the United States.

Now, therefore, I hereby authorize and empower the aforesaid company, subject to the regulations of this Department, issued under and in accordance with Sections 9304 to 9308 of Title 31 of the United States Code, to qualify as sole surety on recognizances, stipulations, bonds and undertakings permitted or required by the laws of the United States, to be given with one or more sureties. This Certificate shall renew on the thirtieth day of June each year, unless revoked prior to that date.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the Department of the Treasury to be affixed, on the day and year first above written.


Director, Financial Accounting and Services Division
Financial Management Service