DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20227

May 17, 2012

Memorandum For All Non-Treasury Disbursing Officers:

As outlined in the January 2011 and March 2012 letters to Chief Financial Officers from Commissioner David Lebryk, the Financial Management Service (FMS) has undertaken numerous modernization efforts in the areas of payments, collections and accounting. This letter will provide you with additional details regarding two new requirements for Non-Treasury Disbursing Offices (NTDOs): 1) reconciling payments issued with those processed by the Federal Reserve and 2) reporting payments into Treasury's Central Accounting and Reporting System (CARS). These new requirements will be part of the functionality provided in FMS' new system, the Payment Information Repository (PIR). While we have spoken at a number of agency forums and have already begun working directly with your staff, I want to provide you these details directly.

Your agency will see the effect of these modernization efforts initiated in 2012, when the PIR is first implemented. You may be aware that the CA$HLINK II system will be decommissioned in December 2012. Disbursement data your staff currently views in CA$HLINK II will be available for viewing in the PIR beginning July 2012. Agencies must be converted to the PIR by September 30, 2012. The information in the PIR will be provided to your agency on-line, as it is today in CA$HLINK II. Your staff who currently use CA$HLINK II will be required to enroll in the PIR. The reports provided in the PIR will contain the same information as in CA$HLINK II, so we expect this part of the transition to occur with minimal effort by the agencies.

The PIR will also support the FMS initiative requiring Federal agencies to submit Treasury Account Symbol/Business Event Type Code (TAS/BETC) information on all payment transactions by October 1, 2014. The PIR will streamline the daily reporting of NTDO payment transactions by transmitting them to CARS on behalf of your agency. To accomplish this, your agency will submit to PIR detailed payment and accounting data, including the TAS/BETC classifications, using the PIR Standard Reporting Format (SRF). This functionality will be available in the PIR in December 2012.

To assist in your transition to the PIR, FMS will be conducting PIR webinars monthly. In addition, the PIR webpage is available at http://fms.treas.gov/pir/index.html and contains important information on various aspects of the project. We encourage your staff to subscribe to receive the latest information as the webpage

To assist in your agency's planning and implementation efforts for the PIR transition, we are providing the following key milestones:

Key Milestones:

Beginning March 2012 – Monthly PIR webinars will be held to introduce the PIR and describe the enrollment process. The PIR Standard Reporting Format (SRF) Version 1.0 will be available; and NTDOs may begin internal system enhancements to comply with the new PIR

SRF in preparation for submitting detailed payment data, with detailed TAS/BETC information, for both check and EFT payments.

June - September 2012 – NTDOs should enroll and receive their tokens for gaining access to the PIR.

July 2012 – Payment vouchers, currently accessed via CA$HLINK II, will be available for viewing in the PIR. For three months, agencies enrolled in the PIR can view payment data in both the PIR and CA$HLINK II for testing purposes.

October 2012 - Payment vouchers dated October 1, 2012 and beyond will not be available in CA$HLINK II. Going forward, these payment vouchers will be available for viewing only in the PIR. Historical vouchers dated prior to October 2012 will remain visible in CA$HLINK II until December 2012. Agencies currently accessing CA$HLINK II must be enrolled in PIR to reconcile their payments.

December 31, 2012 – The PIR will support the decommissioning of CA$HLINK II by inheriting all payment related summary voucher data from CA$HLINK II. Queries on current and old NTDO payment files must occur in the PIR. The PIR will be prepared to report all summary voucher payment related data to CARS.

January 2013 – NTDO agencies must begin transmitting check, wire, ACH and ITS.gov detailed payment data, with detailed TAS/BETC classifications, via the PIR SRF.

Implementing these initiatives will continue the effort to modernize the Federal government's payments, collections and central accounting and reporting systems. The end result will be greater efficiency, cost savings, and data quality improvements which will be felt on every level throughout government. We appreciate your support throughout the transition. If your staff has any questions throughout this transition, please have them contact Karen Brown, PIR Project Manager, at 202-874-0702 or Robert Walker, Deputy Project Manager at 202-874-8487. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sheryl R. Morrow

Sheryl R. Morrow
Assistant Commissioner
Payment Management and
Chief Disbursing Officer