

April 23, 2021

SVE: Partial Liquidation

Dear SVE members,

In the course of 2020, ENGIE Services AG, a company affiliated with the SVE, underwent restructuring, which involved the merger of various legal entities. As a consequence, employees were transferred to another company. This process led to a total of 61 SVE members being transferred to a new pension fund and led to a partial liquidation within the SVE.

If several insured persons transfer collectively to another pension fund (a so-called “collective departure”), based on the Partial Liquidation Regulations, besides their individual savings capital they are also collectively entitled to a proportion of the actuarial provisions and fluctuation reserves as well as a share of the SVE’s disposable assets (art. 6 and 7 of the Partial Liquidation Regulations). However, they are entitled to these reserves only insofar as actuarial risks are also transferred.

The SVE’s financial situation is determined on the basis of the applicable balance sheet date. This is the end of the calendar year nearest to the beginning of the implementation of the partial liquidation. The first departures from the SVE took place on 30 June 2020; for this reason, the applicable balance sheet date is 31 December 2019.

The SVE made provisions for pending and latent benefit claims, retirement losses and lowered actuarial interest rates, as well as the fluctuation reserves on 31 December 2019 (the 2019 Annual Report may be downloaded from www.sve.ch/home/Downloads under Annual Reports). As there were no pending applications for disability benefits among the members who transferred collectively to another pension fund, they have no proportional entitlement to pending and latent benefits. Nor are they entitled to reserves for retirement losses, since the members for whom they were formed remain with the SVE as future pensioners. Furthermore, no pensioners will be transferred to the new pension fund, meaning that they are not entitled to reserves put aside for lowered actuarial interest rates. By contrast, the members collectively transferring to another pension fund are entitled to a proportion of the fluctuation reserves.

The annual financial statement of 31 December 2019 shows that the SVE also held disposable assets on that date. Members transferring collectively to another pension fund are therefore also collectively entitled to a share of those disposable assets.

In line with art. 6 and 7 of the Partial Liquidation Regulations, an equivalent share of the fluctuation reserves and disposable assets will thus be transferred collectively to the new pension fund.

Details may be found in the Partial Liquidation Report of 5 March 2021 compiled by Libera AG’s pension fund experts; the report may be viewed in the SVE’s offices by appointment.

As members and pensioners, you have the option of addressing your objections to the Board of Trustees in writing, stating why you disagree with its decision, within 30 days of receiving this information letter.

Should no objections be raised with the Board of Trustees, or should any objections be settled within this period, the partial liquidation will be implemented and finalised.

Martina Ingold (tel. 052 262 41 20, martina.ingold@sve.ch) or Peter Strassmann (tel. 052 262 41 05, peter.strassmann@sve.ch) will be pleased to answer any queries you may have regarding this matter.