**POLICY NOTICE**

**Date:** 3-3-93  
**Reference #:** 93-11  
**To:** Recipient Agencies, Warehouses, Commercial Distributors  
**Subject:** Transportation - Weather Protection  

Carriers of USDA surplus commodities are required to protect commodities from freezing during shipping in winter months. Canned processed commodity shipments require special protection against freezing. Other products, such as egg mix, nonfat dry milk, dehydrated potatoes, bagged beans, bagged peas, bagged lentils, and dried fruit do not require special protection from freezing.

The standards required for protecting commodities from freezing, via the various modes of transportation, are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Delivery Time Period</th>
<th>Type of Protective Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rail/Pool Car</td>
<td>Oct. 15 thru April 15</td>
<td>Insulated car and/or heater service. A mechanical car with heater capabilities may be used in place of an insulated car.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Truck &amp; Piggyback</td>
<td>Nov. 1 thru March 31</td>
<td>Remarks on the Notice to Deliver, which are to be shown on the Bill of Lading, state: &quot;Load only in fully insulated trucks [containers]. Protect from freezing.&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** In some instances, carriers may request exceptions to these rules from USDA; but in all circumstances, USDA ensures that the carrier is responsible for protecting the commodities during shipping.

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