

DOCUMENT RESUME

02885 - [A1932983]

[Temporary Storage of Household Goods and Related Expenses].
B-187366. July 6, 1977. 2 pp.

Decision re: S. D. Van Hoesen; by Robert F. Keller, Deputy
Comptroller General.

Issue Area: Personnel Management and Compensation: Compensation
(305).

Contact: Office of the General Counsel: Civilian Personnel.
Budget Function: General Government: Central Personnel
Management (805).

Organization Concerned: Energy Research and Development
Administration.

Authority: B-187060 (1976). B-176234 (1974). F.T.R. (FPMR
101-7); para. 2-8.3a(1). GSA Bulletin FPMR A-2, Supp. 56,
Attachment A.

Paul T. Marquess, Authorized Certifying Officer, Energy
Research and Development Administration, requested a decision on
storage expenses of transferred employee. Employee stored
household goods in uninhabitable part of temporary rental
quarters and requested reimbursement of costs of truck rental,
gas, and two furniture movers to offload truck. Retention of
goods in residence in lieu of storage in warehouse could not be
reimbursed under regulations nor could cost of movers, but
commuted rate for moving goods could be reimbursed. (DJM)

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DECISION



**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20518

*Heitzman
Civ. Per.*

FILE: B-187366

DATE: JUL 6 1977

MATTER OF: S.D. Van Hoesen - Household Goods -
Temporary Storage - Related Expenses

DIGEST:

1. Transferred employee who stores household goods in uninhabitable portion of his rental unit may not be reimbursed for expenses related to temporary storage since placement of employee's goods at his residence may not serve as the basis for reimbursement for temporary storage. B-187060, October 13, 1976, 56 Comp. Gen. _____ (1976).
2. GSA Bulletin FPMR 1-2, Supp. 56, Attachment A (May 29, 1975), provides for reimbursement only for expenses incurred in connection with temporary storage of household goods in warehouses and provides that comparison be made with amount paid to carrier.

Paul T. Marquess, an authorized certifying officer of the United States Energy Research and Development Administration, by letter of August 26, 1976, has requested a decision as to whether he may certify a voucher for payment relating to the storage expenses of Mr. S.D. Van Hoesen incident to a permanent change of station.

Mr. Van Hoesen was authorized transportation and storage (not to exceed 30 days) of his household goods pursuant to Authorization For Change of Official Station, Order No. CR 30-76.

Mr. Van Hoesen moved his household goods from his prior residence in Frederick, Maryland, to his new permanent residence in Kingston, Tennessee, by renting a truck and moving himself. Upon arrival in Kingston, Tennessee, Mr. Van Hoesen was unable to move into his new permanent residence due to problems with the seller vacating the house.

Mr. Van Hoesen's transfer authorization was amended to allow 30 days temporary quarters, and he was paid for the temporary quarters and the computed rate for moving his household goods from Frederick, Maryland, to Kingston, Tennessee.

SCA

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Mr. Van Hoesen secured a rental unit in Richwood, Tennessee, and stored his household goods in an uninhabitable portion of the rental unit. Mr. Van Hoesen has requested reimbursement of \$30 for the hire of two men to unload the truck and move the furniture into the rental unit and reimbursement of \$70 for a subsequent move from the rental unit into his permanent residence. In addition, Mr. Van Hoesen has requested reimbursement for \$50 consisting of \$39 for truck rental and \$11 for gas. With the exception of the truck rental, receipts were not furnished by Mr. Van Hoesen for the cash payments.

We agree with the contention of the certifying officer that the \$30 claimed to hire two men to initially unload the truck is not reimbursable. The estimated rate includes drayage incident to transportation and Mr. Van Hoesen was reimbursed for the estimated rate. See B-178234, June 18, 1974, and Federal Travel Regulations, FPMR 101-7, para. 2-8.3a(1) (May 1973).

We have specifically held that the placement or retention of an employee's goods in his residence may not serve as the basis for reimbursement under the regulations relating to temporary storage. B-187060, October 13, 1976, 56 Comp. Gen. _____ (1976).

In the absence of placing the household goods in temporary storage as provided in the regulations, we are unaware of any authority that would permit reimbursement of the expenses related to the storage of Mr. Hoesen's household goods in his rental unit.

Therefore, for the reasons set forth above, Mr. Van Hoesen's voucher may not be certified for payment.

R. F. KELLER

Deputy Comptroller General
of the United States