

**NOT DESIGNATED FOR PUBLICATION**

BEFORE THE ARKANSAS WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

CLAIM NO. F300133

MELODY KUEHL, EMPLOYEE	CLAIMANT
COOPER POWER SERVICES, EMPLOYER	RESPONDENT
CROCKETT ADJUSTMENT, CARRIER	RESPONDENT

OPINION FILED FEBRUARY 19, 2004

Upon review before the FULL COMMISSION, Little Rock, Pulaski County, Arkansas.

Claimant represented by HONORABLE JAY TOLLEY, Attorney at Law, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Respondent represented by HONORABLE DAVID WALL, Attorney at Law, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Decision of Administrative Law Judge: Affirmed and Adopted.

OPINION AND ORDER

The claimant appeals from a decision of the Administrative Law Judge filed August 15, 2003.

The Administrative Law Judge entered the following findings of fact and conclusions of law:

1. The Arkansas Workers' Compensation Commission has jurisdiction of this claim;
2. On all relevant dates prior to October 21, 2002, the relationship of employee-self insured employer-third party administrator exists between the parties.

3. The appropriate weekly compensation rates are \$232.00 for total disability and \$174.00 for permanent partial disability.
4. During her employment with this respondent, the claimant sustained a compensable injury to her hands and wrists, in the form of bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome.
5. All reasonably necessary medical expenses incurred by the claimant for this compensable injury have been paid by the respondent.
6. The claimant has failed to prove by the greater weight of the credible evidence that her present difficulties with her wrists and hands, also diagnosed as bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome, are causally related to her prior compensable bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome. Thus, the medical services that are necessitated by or related to her present episode of difficulties with her hands and wrists are not necessitated or related to her previous compensable bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome and would not represent "reasonably necessary medical services: for this compensable injury.
7. The respondents have controverted the claimant's entitlement to any additional medical services received or recommended after September 20, 2002.

We have carefully conducted a de novo review of the entire record herein and it is our opinion that the Administrative Law Judge's decision is supported by a preponderance of the credible evidence, correctly applies the law, and should be affirmed. Specifically, we find from a preponderance of the evidence that the findings of fact

made by the Administrative Law Judge are correct and they are, therefore, adopted by the Full Commission.

Thus, we affirm and adopt the decision of the Administrative Law Judge, including all findings and conclusions therein, as the decision of the Full Commission on appeal.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

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OLAN W. REEVES, Chairman

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KAREN H. MCKINNEY, Commissioner

Commissioner Turner dissents.