

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

SERVICE BY
CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Donald Dolittle
President
Wesco Construction Co.
902 Saginaw Road
West Grove, PA 19390

February 6, 2018

Re: 1400 Union Meeting Road
Blue Bell, PA 19422

Dear Mister. Dolittle:

Re: Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing
EPA Docket No. CAA-03-2018-0054

Enclosed please find a corrected copy of the Complaint, Compliance Order, and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing ("Complaint") that I filed February 1, 2108, with the Regional Hearing Clerk ("Clerk") concerning alleged violations by Wesco Construction Co. ("Wesco") of Section 112 of the Clean Air Act (the "CAA" or "Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7412. When I filed the Complaint with the Clerk, the date-time stamp machine had not been updated. This resulted in an erroneous date time stamp of January 32, 2018. The Clerk corrected the stamp on the original Complaint and, as I said, I am sending you a copy of the corrected Complaint.

You must file an Answer to the corrected Complaint within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this letter with the corrected Complaint. Because the Complaint I filed and sent to you on February 1, 2018, had a defective date-time stamp, the time for your response to the Complaint runs from the date of service of this letter with the copy of the corrected Complaint. The Answer must specifically respond to each of the allegations in the corrected Complaint. Your failure to respond to the corrected Complaint by specific Answer within thirty (30) days of your receipt of the Complaint will constitute an admission of the corrected Complaint's allegations. If you fail to file an Answer, EPA will file a Motion for a Default Order. This could result in the issuance of a Default Order imposing the corrected Complaint's proposed penalty without further proceedings.

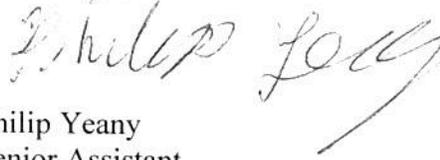
REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
EPA REGION III PHILA. PA

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If you have any questions, you can reach me by telephone at (215) 814-2495.

Sincerely, .

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Philip Yeany".

Philip Yeany
Senior Assistant
Regional Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Richard Ponak (w/o enclosures)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

SERVICE BY
CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Donald Dolittle
President
Wesco Construction Co.
902 Saginaw Road
West Grove, PA 19390

February 1, 2018

Re: 1400 Union Meeting Road
Blue Bell, PA 19422

Dear Mister. Dolittle:

Re: Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing
EPA Docket No. CAA-03-2018-0054

Enclosed please find a copy of the Complaint, Compliance Order, and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing ("Complaint") filed today with the Regional Hearing Clerk concerning alleged violations by Wesco Construction Co. ("Wesco") of Section 112 of the Clean Air Act (the "CAA" or "Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7412, which, among other things, seeks to control exposure to asbestos during the renovation of buildings. You should read and analyze the Complaint carefully to determine the alternatives available to you in responding to the alleged violations, proposed penalty, and compliance requirements.

The Complaint states that Wesco failed to adequately wet all asbestos containing material while it was stripped from components at a facility, failed to ensure that the material remained wet until it was collected and contained or treated in preparation for disposal, and did not provide EPA with the required written notice of its intention to renovate the facility.

You must file an Answer to this Complaint within thirty (30) days of its receipt. The Answer must specifically respond to each of the allegations in the Complaint. Your failure to respond to this Complaint by specific Answer within thirty (30) days of your receipt of the Complaint will constitute an admission of the Complaint's allegations. If you fail to file an Answer, EPA will file a Motion for a Default Order. This could result in the issuance of a Default Order imposing the Complaint's proposed penalty without further proceedings.

You may choose to request a hearing to contest any matter set forth in the Complaint. You must include your hearing request in your Answer to this Complaint. Whether or not you request a hearing, you may ask for an informal settlement conference to discuss resolution of this case. I am the attorney assigned to this case. If you are represented by legal counsel, your

counsel can contact me on your behalf by mail at the following address:

Philip Yeany
Senior Assistant Regional Counsel (3RC50)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

You can reach me by telephone at (215) 814-2495.

To the extent that your business qualifies as a "small business" under the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act (SBREFA), enclosed is an *Information for Small Businesses* sheet, which provides information on compliance assistance and on contacting the SBREFA Ombudsman to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities. Any decision to participate in such program or to seek compliance assistance does not constitute a request for a settlement conference, relieve you of your obligation to file a timely answer to the Complaint, or create for you any new rights or defenses under law. Nor will such an action affect EPA's enforcement of the Complaint. To preserve your legal rights, you must comply with all rules governing the administrative enforcement process, as set forth in the Consolidated Rules of Practice in 40 C.F.R. Part 22. The SBREFA Ombudsman does not participate in the resolution of EPA's enforcement action.

Also enclosed is a copy of 40 C.F.R. Part 22, *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders, and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits* ("Consolidated Rules"). The *Consolidated Rules* govern EPA's administrative adjudicatory proceedings such as the filing of the enclosed complaint against Wesco and any subsequent assessment of an administrative civil penalty.

Sincerely,



Philip Yeany
Senior Assistant
Regional Counsel

Enclosures

cc: Richard Ponak (w/o enclosures)

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III

RECEIVED

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enc 2/1/2018

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
EPA REGION III, PHILA. PA

In the matter of: : Administrative Complaint and Notice of
: Opportunity for Hearing
Wesco Construction Co. :
902 Saginaw Road : U.S. EPA Docket No.
West Grove, PA 19390 : CAA-03-2018- 0054
Respondent, :
: :
1400 Union Meeting Road :
Blue Bell, PA 19422 :
Facility. :
: :
: :
: :

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REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
EPA REGION III, PHILA. PA

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINT AND
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Complainant, the Director of the Lands and Chemicals Division of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, initiates this action against Wesco ("Wesco" or the "Respondent") for violations of Section 112 of the Clean Air Act (the "CAA" or "Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7412, as alleged below.
2. This Administrative Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing ("Complaint") is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, ("EPA" or the "Agency") by Section 113(a)(3) and (d) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7413(a)(3) and (d), and the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits* ("Consolidated Rules"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22, a copy of which is enclosed with this Complaint. The authority to issue this Complaint has been duly delegated to the Complainant.

3. Sections 113(a)(3) and (d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7413(a)(3) and (d), authorize the Administrator of EPA to issue an administrative order assessing a civil administrative penalty whenever, on the basis of any information available to the Administrator, the Administrator finds that any person has violated, or is in violation of, any rule, plan, order, waiver, or permit promulgated, issued, or approved under, *inter alia*, Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412.
4. This Complaint alleges that the Respondent violated Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412, by failing to comply with the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for asbestos ("Asbestos NESHAP"), 40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart M - *National Emission Standard for Asbestos*, in connection with a renovation conducted at 1400 Union Meeting Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422 (hereafter the "Facility").

II. JURISDICTION, BACKGROUND AND DEFINITIONS

5. EPA and the Office of Administrative Law Judges have jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Sections 113(a)(3) and (d) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7413(a)(3) and (d), and 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.1(a)(2) and 22.4.
6. As enacted the CAA lists asbestos as a hazardous air pollutant, Section 112(b) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(b).
7. Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412, requires the Administrator of EPA to promulgate regulations establishing emission standards or, where necessary, promulgate design, equipment, work practice, or operational standards for each listed hazardous air pollutant.
8. Section 114(a)(1) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7414(a)(1), authorizes the Administrator of EPA to require any person who owns or operates any emission source or who is

- otherwise subject to the requirements of the CAA to, among other things, establish and maintain such records, make such reports and provide such information as the Administrator might reasonably require to develop or determine compliance with emission standards.
9. Pursuant to, among other sections, Sections 112 and 114 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7412 and 7414, EPA promulgated the Asbestos NESHAP.
 10. The Asbestos NESHAP includes regulations governing, *inter alia*, the emission, handling, and disposal of asbestos by the owner or operator of a demolition or renovation activity at an affected facility, 40 C.F.R. § 61.145.
 11. EPA promulgated portions of the Asbestos NESHAP prior to the enactment of the November 15, 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments.
 12. Notwithstanding the November 15, 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments, the portions of the Asbestos NESHAP promulgated prior to the enactment of the November 15, 1990 Clean Air Act Amendments remain in full force and effect, unless modified after November 15, 1990, pursuant to Section 112(q) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(q).
 - ~~13.~~ Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, "Adequately wet" is defined as "sufficiently mix or penetrate with liquid to prevent the release of particulates."
 14. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, "Asbestos" is defined as "the asbestiform varieties of serpentinite (chrysotile), riebeckite (crocidolite), cummingtonite-grunerite, anthophyllite, and actinolite-tremolite."
 15. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, "Category II nonfriable [Asbestos Containing Material ("ACM")]" is defined as "any material, excluding Category I nonfriable ACM, containing more than 1 percent asbestos as determined using the methods specified in Appendix E

to Subpart E of 40 C.F.R. Part 763, section 1, Polarized Light Microscopy that, when dry, cannot be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.”

16. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Facility” is defined as “any institutional, commercial, public, industrial, or residential structure, installation, or building (including any structure, installation, or building containing condominiums or individual dwelling units operated as a residential cooperative, but excluding residential buildings having four or fewer dwelling units); any ship; and any active or inactive waste disposal site. For purposes of this definition, any building, structure, or installation that contains a loft used as a dwelling is not considered a residential structure, installation, or building. Any structure, installation or building that was previously subject to [the Asbestos NESHAP] is not excluded, regardless of its current use or function.”
17. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Facility component” is defined as “any part of a facility including equipment.”
18. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Friable asbestos material” is defined in pertinent part as “any material containing more than 1 percent asbestos as determined using . . . Polarized Light Microscopy, that, when dry, can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.”
19. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Regulated asbestos-containing material” or “RACM” is defined as “(a) Friable asbestos material, (b) Category I nonfriable ACM that has become friable, (c) Category I nonfriable ACM that will be or has been subjected to sanding, grinding, cutting, or abrading, or (d) Category II nonfriable ACM that has a high probability of becoming or has become crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder

- by the forces expected to act on the material in the course of demolition or renovation operations regulated by [the Asbestos NESHAP].”
20. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Remove” is defined as “to take out RACM or facility components that contain or are covered with RACM from any facility.”
21. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Renovation” is defined in pertinent part as “altering a facility or one or more facility components in any way, including the stripping or removal of RACM from a facility component.”
22. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Strip” is defined as “to take off RACM from any part of a facility or facility components.”
23. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, “Owner or operator of a demolition or renovation activity” is defined as “any person who owns, leases, operates, controls, or supervises the facility being demolished or renovated or any person who owns, leases, operates, controls, or supervises the demolition or renovation operation, or both.”
24. Pursuant to Section 302(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e), “person” is defined as “[including] an individual, corporation, partnership, association, State, municipality, political subdivision of a State, and any agency, department, or instrumentality of the United States and any officer, agent, or employee thereof.”

III. GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

25. At all times relevant to the violations alleged in this Complaint, Respondent is a Pennsylvania corporation doing business in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with a headquarters located at 902 Saginaw Road, West Grove, PA 19390.
26. At all times relevant to the violations alleged in this Complaint, the Respondent was a “person” within the meaning of Section 302(e), 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e).

27. At all times relevant to the violations alleged in this Complaint, Wesco, a contractor for the owner of the Facility, was engaged in a "renovation," as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, at the Facility that included the removal of ACM from the Facility.
28. At all times relevant to the violations alleged in this Complaint, the Respondent was an "operator of a demolition or renovation activity" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 61.141.
29. At all times relevant to the violations alleged in this Complaint, the Facility was a "facility" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 61.141.
30. On April 27, 2015, an EPA representative conducted a Compliance Evaluation Inspection ("CEI") of the Facility, pursuant to Section 114 of CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7414.
31. During the April 27 Compliance Evaluation Inspection ("April 27 CEI"), the EPA representative observed that pipe insulation had been removed from pipes, floor tile had been removed from the floor, and fire proofing had been removed from one (1) room in the Facility.
32. In addition, the EPA representative observed and took photographs of floor tile debris and fire proofing debris in several areas on the second floor of the Facility.
33. During the April 27 CEI, the EPA representative took a total of four (4) samples from the debris piles on the second floor.
34. Two (2) of the four (4) samples the EPA representative took during the April 27 CEI were from the fire proofing debris piles and the other two (2) samples were from tile debris piles that included black mastic.

35. The EPA representative sent the four (4) samples to a certified laboratory, Criterion Laboratories, Inc. ("Criterion"), for analysis to determine the percentage of asbestos in each sample.
36. Criterion notes on its laboratory reports it is accredited by the AIHA Laboratory Accreditation Programs (AIHA-LAP, LLC) in the Industrial Hygiene Laboratory Accreditation Program (IHLAP), Environmental Microbiology Laboratory Accreditation Program (EMLAP), and the Environmental Lead Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELLAP) for Polarized Light Microscopy.
37. Using Polarized Light Microscopy, Criterion analyzed the samples collected during the April 27 CEI.
38. Analysis of the samples taken during the April 27 CEI from the Facility showed that the two (2) samples of fire proofing debris each contained more than one (1) percent asbestos.
39. Analysis of the samples taken during the April 27 CEI from the Facility showed that the two (2) samples of tile debris with black mastic each contained more than one (1) percent asbestos.
40. Because the fire proofing debris piles contained more than one (1) percent asbestos, the debris was ACM.
41. Because the tile debris piles with black mastic contained more than one (1) percent asbestos, the debris was ACM.
42. Because the debris piles with ACM contained either friable asbestos material, as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, or Category II nonfriable ACM, as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, that has a high probability of becoming or has become crumbled, pulverized, or reduced

to powder by the forces expected to act on the material in the course of demolition or renovation operations regulated by the Asbestos NESHAP, the debris was RACM, as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 61.141.

43. All of the RACM that the EPA representative observed during the April 27 CEI was dry.
44. On May 6, 2015, an EPA representative conducted a second CEI ("May 6 CEI") of the Facility.
45. During the May 6 CEI, the EPA representative observed and photographed three (3) large cardboard boxes containing materials that had been removed or stripped from the Facility or from components in the Facility.
46. The first box ("Box 1") contained pipe insulation in ten leak proof bags ("Box 1 pipe insulation").
47. The EPA representative estimated that there was at least 30 feet of pipe insulation in each bag in Box 1.
48. According to a representative of the Respondent, the Box 1 pipe insulation had been placed in the bags after it was stripped from components at the Facility.
49. To ascertain whether the Box 1 pipe insulation in each of the ten bags was dry, the EPA representative opened some of the bags and visually inspected the contents.
50. For those bags of the Box 1 pipe insulation that the EPA representative opened, he observed that the pipe insulation was dry with dry visible dust observable in the bags.
51. For the remaining bags of the Box 1 pipe insulation, the EPA representative manipulated the outside of each bag and squeezed the contents of the bag.

52. For each of the remaining bags of the Box 1 pipe insulation, the EPA representative observed that the pipe insulation felt dry as he squeezed it.
53. Because the Box 1 pipe insulation had been bagged when it was stripped from components at the Facility, was in leak proof bags, and was either dry with dry visible dust or felt dry when squeezed, the Respondent had not adequately wetted the Box 1 pipe insulation when Respondent stripped it from components at the Facility.
54. The second box ("Box 2") had bags of dry fiberglass insulation with fitting insulation and some bags of fireproofing.
55. The fiberglass and fitting insulation in Box 2 were dry.
56. The third box ("Box 3") contained construction debris and fireproofing.
57. The fireproofing in Box 3 was dry.
58. During the May 6 CEI, the EPA representative took three (3) samples from the dry pipe insulation in Box 1.
59. During the May 6 CEI, the EPA representative took two (2) samples from the dry fitting insulation in Box 2.
60. During the May 6 CEI, the EPA representative took one (1) sample from the dry fireproofing in Box 3.
61. The EPA representative sent the six (6) samples referenced in Paragraphs 58-60 to Criterion for analysis to determine the percentage of asbestos in each sample.
62. Using Polarized Light Microscopy, Criterion analyzed the samples referenced in Paragraphs 58-60.
63. Analysis of the three (3) samples taken from Box 1 during the May 6 CEI showed that two (2) of the three (3) samples contained more than one (1) percent asbestos.

64. Analysis of the two (2) samples taken from Box 2 during the May 6 CEI showed that the two (2) samples contained more than one (1) percent asbestos.
65. Analysis of the sample taken from Box 3 during the May 6 CEI showed that it contained more than one (1) percent asbestos.
66. Because the samples showed that the pipe insulation, the pipe fitting insulation, and the fire proofing contained more than one (1) percent asbestos, these materials were ACM.
67. Because the pipe insulation, the pipe fitting insulation, and fire proofing with ACM contained either friable asbestos material or Category II nonfriable ACM that has a high probability of becoming or has become crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by the forces expected to act on the material in the course of demolition or renovation operations regulated by the Asbestos NESHAP, the material was RACM.
68. Based on EPA's representative's observations during the April 27 and May 6 CEIs at the Facility, the Respondent was engaged in "renovation" or "renovation activity" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 61.141.
69. The Respondent did not provide notice of the renovation activities at the Facility to EPA.
70. Prior to the April 27 CEI, the Respondent provided a notice form dated March 19, 2015, that stated that the renovation activities at the Facility were not subject to the Asbestos NESHAP.
71. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(a), all of the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of 40 C.F.R. § 61.145 apply to the owner or operator of a renovation activity if the combined amount of a facility's RACM to be stripped, removed, dislodged, cut, drilled, or similarly

disturbed is at least 80 linear meters (260 linear feet) on pipes or at least 15 square meters (160 square feet) on other facility components,

72. A notice to DEP of the renovation dated May 14, 2015, and observations by the EPA representative during the April 27 and May 6 CEIs evidence that the Respondent was removing more than 80 linear meters (260 linear feet) on pipes (including pipe fittings) from the Facility and more than 16 square meters (160 square feet) of RACM from other facility components, that is, tiles and fire proofing.
73. Because the Respondent was removing from the Facility more than 80 linear meters (260 linear feet) of RACM on pipes (including pipe fittings) and more than 16 square meters (160 square feet) of RACM from other facility components (that is, tiles and fire proofing), pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(a)(4)(i), all of the requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of 40 C.F.R. § 61.145 apply to the subject renovation.

Count I

(Failure to Notify EPA of Intention to Renovate)

74. The foregoing allegations contained in this Complaint are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.
75. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(b), each owner and operator of a renovation activity to which 40 C.F.R. § 61.145 applies must provide EPA with prior written notice of its intention to renovate.
76. The Respondent did not provide EPA with the required written notice of its intention to renovate the Facility.
77. The Respondent has violated 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(b) by not providing the required written notice to EPA.

78. The Respondent's failure to comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R.

§ 61.145(b) constitutes a violation of Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412.

Count II

(Failure to Wet Asbestos During Stripping)

79. The foregoing allegations contained in this Complaint are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

80. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(c)(3), when RACM is stripped from a component at a facility and the component remains in place in the facility, each owner and operator of such renovation activity must adequately wet all RACM during the stripping operation.

81. Neither of the exemptions from wetting the RACM allowed by 40 C.F.R.

§§ 61.145(c)(3)(i) or (ii) applied to the renovation of the Facility.

82. Because the Box 1 pipe insulation was RACM, the Respondent violated 40 C.F.R.

§ 61.145(c)(3) by not adequately wetting the Box 1 pipe insulation as it was stripped.

83. The Respondent's failure to comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(c)(3) constitutes a violation of Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412.

Count III

(Failure to Wet Removed Asbestos Prior to Disposal)

84. The foregoing allegations contained in this Complaint are incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

85. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(c)(6)(i), each owner and operator of a renovation activity must adequately wet all RACM, including material that has been removed or stripped, and ensure that the RACM remains wet until collected and contained or treated in preparation for disposal.

86. The Respondent did not adequately wet the RACM after it was removed and ensure that the RACM remained wet until collected and contained or treated in preparation for disposal.
87. The Respondent has violated 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(c)(6)(i) by not adequately wetting the RACM that was removed ensuring that the RACM remained wet until collected and contained or treated in preparation for disposal.
88. The Respondent's failure to comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(c)(6)(i) constitutes a violation of Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412.

V. PROPOSED CIVIL PENALTY

Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), authorizes the Administrator of EPA to assess a penalty not to exceed \$25,000 per day per of violation and not to exceed \$200,000 per administrative enforcement action. The Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990 (28 U.S.C. § 2461 note), as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (31 U.S.C. § 3701 note), and the subsequent *Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule*, 40 C.F.R. § 19.4, raised the maximum civil penalty to \$37,500 per day per of violation and not to exceed 320,000 per administrative enforcement action for violations that occurred after December 6, 2013 through November 2, 2015.

In matters such as these, EPA seeks to assess a Gravity Component and to recover of any Economic Benefit that a violator may have gained as a result of its violative conduct.

In this matter, EPA's Gravity Component calculations for the proposed penalty is detailed in the following table:

PROPOSED CIVIL PENALTY – GRAVITY COMPONENT

COUNT	DATES OF VIOLATIONS	VIOLATION	NUMBER OF UNITS	CITATION	PENALTY
COUNT I	April 27, 2015, May 5, 2015	Failure to provide written notice of renovation operations	≤ 10 units	40 C.F.R. § 61.145(b)(1)	\$ 15,000
<u>COUNT II</u>	April 27, 2015, May 5, 2015	Failure to adequately wet RACM during removal operations	≤ 10 units	40 C.F.R. § 61.145(c)(3)	\$ 5,000
COUNT III	April 27, 2015, May 5, 2015	Failure to keep RACM adequately wet	≤ 10 units	40 C.F.R. § 61.145(c)(6)(i)	\$ 5,000
	April 27, 2015 - May 5, 2015				\$4,500
Size of the Violator					\$ 2,000
SUBTOTAL					\$ 31,500
Inflation Adjustment Factor					Gravity component subtotal x 1.4163
TOTAL GRAVITY COMPONENT					\$ 44,613

Because EPA has determined that the Respondent did not gain any economic benefit as a result of its violative conduct, EPA seeks a penalty of forty-four thousand six hundred thirteen dollars (\$ 44,613) in this matter.

The proposed civil penalty has been determined in accordance with Section 113 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413; 40 C.F.R. Part 19; U.S. EPA's *Clean Air Act Stationary Source Civil Penalty Policy*, dated October 25, 1992 ("*CAA Penalty Policy*"), and Appendix III thereto ("*Asbestos Penalty Policy*"); and "*Amendments to EPA's Civil Penalty Policies to Implement the 2008 Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule*" (pursuant to the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, Effective October 1, 2004), dated December 29, 2008 ("*Inflation Policy*"). Copies of

the *CAA Penalty Policy*, *Asbestos Penalty Policy*, and the *Inflation Policy* are enclosed with this Complaint.

The proposed penalty is not a demand as that term is defined in the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412.

In determining the amount of any penalty to be assessed, Section 113(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(e), requires EPA to take into consideration the size of the business, the economic impact of the penalty on the business, the violator's full compliance history and good faith efforts to comply, the duration of the violation as established by any credible evidence, payment by the violator of penalties previously assessed for the same violation, the economic benefit of noncompliance, and the seriousness of the violation.

To develop the proposed penalty herein, Complainant has taken into account the particular facts and circumstances of this case with specific reference to the *Asbestos Penalty Policy* as well as the *CAA Penalty Policy*, which were interpreted in light of the need to index for inflation consistent with 40 C.F.R. Part 19.

If EPA learns of facts or circumstances after issuance of the Complaint that it did not know when it issued the Complaint, EPA may also consider such facts and circumstances as a basis for adjusting the civil penalty proposed in the Complaint. Such factors include the Respondent's ability to pay the proposed civil penalty. The proposed penalty reflects a presumption of Respondent's ability to pay the penalty and to continue in business based on the size of its business and the economic impact of the proposed penalty on its business. It is up to the Respondent to raise and demonstrate an inability to pay the proposed penalty.

EPA's applicable penalty policy represents an analysis of the statutory penalty factors enumerated above, as well as guidance on their application to particular cases. If the penalty

proposed herein is contested through the hearing process described below, Complainant is prepared to support the statutory basis for the elements of the penalty policy applied in this case as well as the amount and nature of the penalty proposed.

The gravity component of the penalty accounts for the amount of asbestos involved (more than 1 Unit but less than 10 Units) and the substantive nature of the violation. No further adjustment of the penalty appears warranted under the applicable penalty policies at this time. If appropriate, further penalty adjustments may be made during settlement negotiations. EPA reserves the right to seek higher penalties if new or undiscovered evidence supports such assessment.

VI. NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST A HEARING

The Respondent has the right to request a hearing to contest any matter of law or material fact set forth in this Complaint or the appropriateness of the proposed penalty. To request a hearing, Respondent must file a written Answer to the Complaint, within 30 days of receipt of this Complaint, with:

Regional Hearing Clerk (3RC00)
U.S. EPA, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

The Answer should clearly and directly admit, deny, or explain each of the factual allegations contained in this Complaint of which the Respondent has any knowledge. Where Respondent has no knowledge of the facts contained in an allegation, the Answer should so state. The Answer should contain: (1) the circumstances or arguments that are alleged to constitute the grounds of any defense; (2) the facts which the Respondent disputes; (3) the basis for opposing any proposed relief; and (4) a statement of whether a hearing is requested. All

material facts not denied in the Answer will be considered admitted pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(d) of the *Consolidated Rules*.

If Respondent fails to file a written Answer within 30 days of receipt of this Complaint, such failure shall constitute an admission of all facts alleged against the Respondent in this Complaint and a waiver of Respondent's right to a hearing on such factual allegations. Failure to file a written Answer may result in the filing of a Motion for a Default Order and the possible issuance of a Default Order imposing the penalties proposed herein without further proceedings.

Any hearing requested by the Respondent will be held at a location to be determined at a later date pursuant to the *Consolidated Rules* at 40 C.F.R. § 22.21(d). The hearing will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Consolidated Rules*.

A copy of Respondent's Answer and all other documents that the Respondent files in this action should be sent to the attorney assigned to represent Complainant in this case, Philip Yeany, at:

Philip Yeany (3RC50)
U.S. EPA, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

VII. SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

EPA encourages settlement of this proceeding at any time after issuance of the Complaint if such settlement is consistent with the provisions and objectives of the Clean Air Act. Whether or not a hearing is requested, the Respondent may request a settlement conference with the Complainant to discuss the allegations of the Complaint, and the amount of the proposed civil penalty. However, a request for a settlement conference does not relieve the Respondent of its responsibility to file a timely Answer to the Complaint.

In the event settlement is reached, its terms shall be expressed in a written Consent Agreement prepared by Complainant, signed by the parties, and incorporated into a Final Order signed by the Regional Administrator or his designee. The filing of such a Consent Agreement shall constitute a waiver of Respondent's right to contest the allegations of the Complaint and to appeal the Final Order accompanying the Consent Agreement.

If the Respondent wishes to arrange a settlement conference, Respondent or, if the Respondent is represented by legal counsel, Respondent's legal counsel should contact Mr. Yeany at (215) 814-2495 prior to the expiration of the 30-day period following the receipt of this Complaint. Once again, however, such a request for a settlement conference does not relieve the Respondent of its responsibility to file an Answer within 30 days following Respondent's receipt of this Complaint.

VIII. QUICK RESOLUTION

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(a) of the *Consolidated Rules*, the Respondent may resolve this proceeding at any time by paying the specific penalty proposed in this Complaint. If the Respondent pays the specific penalty proposed in this Complaint within 30 days of receiving this Complaint, then, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(a)(1) of the *Consolidated Rules*, no Answer need be filed.

If the Respondent wishes to resolve this proceeding by paying the penalty proposed in this Complaint instead of filing an Answer but needs additional time to pay the penalty, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(a)(2) of the *Consolidated Rules*, Respondent may file a written statement with the Regional Hearing Clerk within 30 days after receiving this Complaint stating that the Respondent agrees to pay the proposed penalty in accordance with 40 C.F.R.

§ 22.18(a)(1). Such written statement need not contain any response to, or admission of, the allegations in the Complaint. Such statement shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and a copy shall be provided to Mr. Yeany. Within 60 days of receiving the Complaint, Respondent shall pay the full amount of the proposed penalty. Failure to make such payment within 60 days of receipt of the Complaint may subject the Respondent to default pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.17 of the *Consolidated Rules*.

Upon receipt of payment in full, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(a)(3) of the *Consolidated Rules*, the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator shall issue a final order. Payment by Respondent shall constitute a waiver of Respondent's rights to contest the allegations and to appeal the final order.

Payment of the civil penalty amount required under the terms of this Complaint shall be made as follows:

- a. All payments by Respondent shall reference Respondent's name and address, and the Docket Number of this action, that is, CAA-03-2018-0054.
- b. All checks shall be made payable to "**United States Treasury**;"
- c. All payments made by check and sent by regular mail shall be addressed and mailed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati Finance Center
P.O. Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

Primary Contact: Craig Steffen 513-487-2091
Secondary Contact: Heather Russell 513-487-2044

- d. All payments made by check and sent by overnight delivery service shall be addressed and mailed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati Finance Center
P.O. Box 979077
1005 Convention Plaza SL-MO-C2-GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

Contact: (314) 418-1028

- e. All payments made by check in any currency drawn on banks with no USA branches shall be addressed for delivery to:

Cincinnati Finance
US EPA, MS-NWD
26 W. Martin Luther King Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45268-0001

- f. All payments made by electronic wire transfer shall be directed to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA = 021030004
Account = 68010727
SWIFT Address = FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045
(Field Tag 4200 of the wire transfer message should read:
"D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency")

- g. All electronic payments made through the automated clearinghouse (ACH), also known as Remittance Express (REX), shall be directed to:

US Treasury REX / Cashlink ACH Receiver
ABA = 051036706
Account Number: 310006, Environmental Protection Agency
CTX Format Transaction Code 22 - Checking

Physical location of U.S. Treasury facility:
5700 Rivertech Court
Riverdale, MD 20737

Contact: Craig Steffen 513-487-2091

- h. On-Line Payment Option:

<https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/11751879>
Open and complete the form.

- i. Additional payment guidance is available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment>

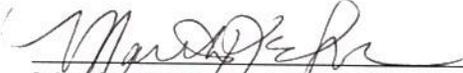
At the same time that any payment is made, Respondent shall mail copies of any corresponding check, or provide written notification confirming any electronic wire transfer, automated clearinghouse or online payment to the Regional Hearing Clerk, and Mr. Yeany.

IX. SEPARATION OF FUNCTIONS AND EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS

The following Agency offices, and the staffs thereof, are designated as the trial staff to represent the Agency as a party in this case: The Region III Office of Regional Counsel; the Region III Land and Chemicals Division; the Office of the EPA Assistant Administrator for Pesticides and Toxic Substances; and the EPA Assistant Administrator for Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. Commencing from the date of the issuance of this Complaint until issuance of a final Agency decision in this case, neither the Administrator, members of the Environmental Appeals Board, the Presiding Officer, the Regional Administrator, nor the Regional Judicial Officer, may have an *ex parte* (unilateral) communication with the trial staff on the merits of any issue involved in this proceeding. Please be advised that pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.8 of the *Consolidated Rules* prohibit any *ex parte* discussion of the merits of a case between either party to this proceeding and the Administrator, members of the Environmental Appeals Board, the Presiding Officer, the Judicial Officer, the Regional Administrator, Regional Judicial Officer, Administrative Law Judge, or any person likely to advise these officials in the

decision of the case, after the Complaint is issued.

1-26-2018
Date



Martha Shimkin, Acting Director
Land and Chemicals Division

U.S. EPA Small Business Resources Information Sheet

The United States Environmental Protection Agency provides an array of resources to help small businesses understand and comply with federal and state environmental laws. In addition to helping small businesses understand their environmental obligations and improve compliance, these resources will also help such businesses find cost-effective ways to comply through pollution prevention techniques and innovative technologies.

Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)

www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-small-and-disadvantaged-business-utilization-osdbu

EPA's OSDBU advocates and advances business, regulatory, and environmental compliance concerns of small and socio-economically disadvantaged businesses.

EPA's Asbestos Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO)

www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/asbestos-small-business-ombudsman or 1-800-368-5888

The EPA ASBO serves as a conduit for small businesses to access EPA and facilitates communications between the small business community and the Agency.

Small Business Environmental Assistance Program

<https://nationalsbeap.org>

This program provides a "one-stop shop" for small businesses and assistance providers seeking information on a wide range of environmental topics and state-specific environmental compliance assistance resources.

EPA's Compliance Assistance Homepage

www.epa.gov/compliance

This page is a gateway to industry and statute-specific environmental resources, from extensive web-based information to hotlines and compliance assistance specialists.

Compliance Assistance Centers

www.complianceassistance.net

EPA sponsored Compliance Assistance Centers provide information targeted to industries with many small businesses. They were developed in partnership with industry, universities and other federal and state agencies.

Agriculture

www.epa.gov/agriculture

Automotive Recycling

www.ecarcenter.org

Automotive Service and Repair

www.ccar-greenlink.org or 1-888-GRN-LINK

Chemical Manufacturing

www.chemalliance.org

Construction

www.cicacenter.org

Education

www.campuserc.org

Food Processing

www.fpeac.org

Healthcare

www.hercenter.org

Local Government

www.lgean.org

Surface Finishing

<http://www.sterc.org>

Paints and Coatings

www.paintcenter.org

Printing

www.pneac.org

Ports

www.portcompliance.org

Transportation

www.tercenter.org

U.S. Border Compliance and Import/Export Issues

www.bordercenter.org

EPA Hotlines and Clearinghouses

www.epa.gov/home/epa-hotlines

EPA sponsors many free hotlines and clearinghouses that provide convenient assistance regarding environmental requirements. Examples include:

Clean Air Technology Center (CATC) Info-line

www.epa.gov/catc or 1-919-541-0800

Superfund, TRI, EPCRA, RMP, and Oil Information Center

1-800-424-9346

EPA Imported Vehicles and Engines Public Helpline

www.epa.gov/otaq/imports or 1-734-214-4100

National Pesticide Information Center

www.npic.orst.edu or 1-800-858-7378

National Response Center Hotline to report oil and hazardous substance spills - <http://nrc.uscg.mil> or 1-800-424-8802

Pollution Prevention Information Clearinghouse (PPIC) -

www.epa.gov/p2/pollution-prevention-resources#ppic or 1-202-566-0799

Safe Drinking Water Hotline -

www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline or 1-800-426-4791

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Hotline

tsca-hotline@epa.gov or 1-202-554-1404

Small Entity Compliance Guides

<https://www.epa.gov/reg-flex/small-entity-compliance-guides>

EPA publishes a Small Entity Compliance Guide (SECG) for every rule for which the Agency has prepared a final regulatory flexibility analysis, in accordance with Section 604 of the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA).

Regional Small Business Liaisons

www.epa.gov/resources-small-businesses/epa-regional-office-small-business-liaisons

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regional Small Business Liaison (RSBL) is the primary regional contact and often the expert on small business assistance, advocacy, and outreach. The RSBL is the regional voice for the EPA Asbestos and Small Business Ombudsman (ASBO).

State Resource Locators

www.envcap.org/statetools

The Locators provide state-specific contacts, regulations and resources covering the major environmental laws.

State Small Business Environmental Assistance Programs (SBEAPs)

<https://nationalsbeap.org/states/list>

State SBEAPs help small businesses and assistance providers understand environmental requirements and sustainable business practices through workshops, trainings and site visits.

EPA's Tribal Portal

www.epa.gov/tribalportal

The Portal helps users locate tribal-related information within EPA and other federal agencies.

EPA Compliance Incentives

EPA provides incentives for environmental compliance. By participating in compliance assistance programs or voluntarily disclosing and promptly correcting violations before an enforcement action has been initiated, businesses may be eligible for penalty waivers or reductions. EPA has two such policies that may apply to small businesses:

EPA's Small Business Compliance Policy

www.epa.gov/enforcement/small-businesses-and-enforcement

EPA's Audit Policy

www.epa.gov/compliance/epas-audit-policy

Commenting on Federal Enforcement Actions and Compliance Activities

The Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (SBREFA) established a SBREFA Ombudsman and 10 Regional Fairness Boards to receive comments from small businesses about federal agency enforcement actions. If you believe that you fall within the Small Business Administration's definition of a small business (based on your North American Industry Classification System designation, number of employees or annual receipts, as defined at 13 C.F.R. 121.201; in most cases, this means a business with 500 or fewer employees), and wish to comment on federal enforcement and compliance activities, call the SBREFA Ombudsman's toll-free number at 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247).

Every small business that is the subject of an enforcement or compliance action is entitled to comment on the Agency's actions without fear of retaliation. EPA employees are prohibited from using enforcement or any other means of retaliation against any member of the regulated community in response to comments made under SBREFA.

Your Duty to Comply

If you receive compliance assistance or submit a comment to the SBREFA Ombudsman or Regional Fairness Boards, you still have the duty to comply with the law, including providing timely responses to EPA information requests, administrative or civil complaints, other enforcement actions or communications. The assistance information and comment processes do not give you any new rights or defenses in any enforcement action. These processes also do not affect EPA's obligation to protect public health or the environment under any of the environmental statutes it enforces, including the right to take emergency remedial or emergency response actions when appropriate. Those decisions will be based on the facts in each situation. The SBREFA Ombudsman and Fairness Boards do not participate in resolving EPA's enforcement actions. Also, remember that to preserve your rights, you need to comply with all rules governing the enforcement process.

EPA is disseminating this information to you without making a determination that your business or organization is a small business as defined by Section 222 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act or related provisions.

ELECTRONIC CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS**e-CFR data is current as of January 26, 2018**

Title 40 → Chapter I → Subchapter A → Part 22

Title 40: Protection of Environment

PART 22—CONSOLIDATED RULES OF PRACTICE GOVERNING THE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSESSMENT OF CIVIL PENALTIES AND THE REVOCATION/TERMINATION OR SUSPENSION OF PERMITS**Contents****Subpart A—General**

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- §22.6 Filing and service of rulings, orders and decisions.
- §22.7 Computation and extension of time.
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Subpart B—Parties and Appearances

- §22.10 Appearances.
- §22.11 Intervention and non-party briefs.
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- §22.14 Complaint.
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- §22.21 Assignment of Presiding Officer; scheduling the hearing.
- §22.22 Evidence.
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- §22.24 Burden of presentation; burden of persuasion; preponderance of the evidence standard.
- §22.25 Filing the transcript.
- §22.26 Proposed findings, conclusions, and order.

Subpart E—Initial Decision, Motion To Reopen a Hearing, and Motion To Set Aside a Default Order

- §22.27 Initial Decision.
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Subpart F—Appeals and Administrative Review

- §22.29 Appeal from or review of interlocutory orders or rulings.
- §22.30 Appeal from or review of initial decision.

Subpart G—Final Order

§22.31 Final order.

§22.32 Motion to reconsider a final order.

Subpart H—Supplemental Rules

§22.33 [Reserved]

§22.34 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under the Clean Air Act.

§22.35 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

§22.36 [Reserved]

§22.37 Supplemental rules governing administrative proceedings under the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

§22.38 Supplemental rules of practice governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under the Clean Water Act.

§22.39 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under section 109 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended.

§22.40 [Reserved]

§22.41 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under Title II of the Toxic Substance Control Act, enacted as section 2 of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA).

§22.42 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties for violations of compliance orders issued to owners or operators of public water systems under part B of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

§22.43 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties against a federal agency under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

§22.44 Supplemental rules of practice governing the termination of permits under section 402(a) of the Clean Water Act or under section 3008(a)(3) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

§22.45 Supplemental rules governing public notice and comment in proceedings under sections 309(g) and 311(b)(6)(B)(ii) of the Clean Water Act and section 1423(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

§§22.46-22.49 [Reserved]

Subpart I—Administrative Proceedings Not Governed by Section 554 of the Administrative Procedure Act

§22.50 Scope of this subpart.

§22.51 Presiding Officer.

§22.52 Information exchange and discovery.

AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 1361; 15 U.S.C. 2615; 33 U.S.C. 1319, 1342, 1361, 1415 and 1418; 42 U.S.C. 300g-3(g), 6912, 6925, 6928, 6991e and 6992d; 42 U.S.C. 7413(d), 7524(c), 7545(d), 7547, 7601 and 7607(a), 9609, and 11045.

SOURCE: 64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

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Subpart A—General

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§22.1 Scope of this part.

(a) These Consolidated Rules of Practice govern all administrative adjudicatory proceedings for:

(1) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty under section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act as amended (7 U.S.C. 1361(a));

(2) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty under sections 113(d), 205(c), 211(d) and 213(d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7413(d), 7524(c), 7545(d) and 7547(d)), and a determination of nonconforming engines, vehicles or equipment under sections 207(c) and 213(d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7541(c) and 7547(d));

(3) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty or for the revocation or suspension of any permit under section 105(a) and (f) of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1415(a) and (f));

(4) The issuance of a compliance order or the issuance of a corrective action order, the termination of a permit pursuant to section 3008(a)(3), the suspension or revocation of authority to operate pursuant to section 3005(e), or the assessment of any civil penalty under sections 3008, 9006, and 11005 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6925(d), 6925(e), 6928, 6991e, and 6992d)), except as provided in part 24 of this chapter;

(5) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty under sections 16(a) and 207 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2615(a) and 2647);

(6) The assessment of any Class II penalty under sections 309(g) and 311(b)(6), or termination of any permit issued pursuant to section 402(a) of the Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1319(g), 1321(b)(6), and 1342(a));

(7) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty under section 109 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (42 U.S.C. 9609);

(8) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty under section 325 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 ("EPCRA") (42 U.S.C. 11045);

(9) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty under sections 1414(g)(3)(B), 1423(c), and 1447(b) of the Safe Drinking Water Act as amended (42 U.S.C. 300g-3(g)(3)(B), 300h-2(c), and 300j-6(b)), or the issuance of any order requiring both compliance and the assessment of an administrative civil penalty under section 1423(c);

(10) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty or the issuance of any order requiring compliance under Section 5 of the Mercury-Containing and Rechargeable Battery Management Act (42 U.S.C. 14304).

(11) The assessment of any administrative civil penalty under section 1908(b) of the Act To Prevent Pollution From Ships ("APPS"), as amended (33 U.S.C. 1908(b)).

(b) The supplemental rules set forth in subparts H and I of this part establish special procedures for proceedings identified in paragraph (a) of this section where the Act allows or requires procedures different from the procedures in subparts A through G of this part. Where inconsistencies exist between subparts A through G of this part and subpart H or I of this part, subparts H or I of this part shall apply.

(c) Questions arising at any stage of the proceeding which are not addressed in these Consolidated Rules of Practice shall be resolved at the discretion of the Administrator, Environmental Appeals Board, Regional Administrator, or Presiding Officer, as provided for in these Consolidated Rules of Practice.

[64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 30904, May 15, 2000; 79 FR 65900, Nov. 6, 2014; 81 FR 73970, Oct. 25, 2016]

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§22.2 Use of number and gender.

As used in these Consolidated Rules of Practice, words in the singular also include the plural and words in the masculine gender also include the feminine, and vice versa, as the case may require.

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§22.3 Definitions.

(a) The following definitions apply to these Consolidated Rules of Practice:

Act means the particular statute authorizing the proceeding at issue.

Administrative Law Judge means an Administrative Law Judge appointed under 5 U.S.C. 3105.

Administrator means the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency or his delegate.

Agency means the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Business confidentiality claim means a confidentiality claim as defined in 40 CFR 2.201(h).

Clerk of the Board means an individual duly authorized to serve as Clerk of the Environmental Appeals Board.

Commenter means any person (other than a party) or representative of such person who timely:

(1) Submits in writing to the Regional Hearing Clerk that he is providing or intends to provide comments on the proposed assessment of a penalty pursuant to sections 309(g)(4) and 311(b)(6)(C) of the Clean Water Act or section 1423(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, whichever applies, and intends to participate in the proceeding; and

(2) Provides the Regional Hearing Clerk with a return address.

Complainant means any person authorized to issue a complaint in accordance with §§22.13 and 22.14 on behalf of the Agency to persons alleged to be in violation of the Act. The complainant shall not be a member of the Environmental Appeals Board, the Regional Judicial Officer or any other person who will participate or advise in the adjudication.

Consolidated Rules of Practice means the regulations in this part.

Environmental Appeals Board means the Board within the Agency described in 40 CFR 1.25.

Final order means:

(1) An order issued by the Environmental Appeals Board or the Administrator after an appeal of an initial decision, accelerated decision, decision to dismiss, or default order, disposing of the matter in controversy between the parties;

(2) An initial decision which becomes a final order under §22.27(c); or

(3) A final order issued in accordance with §22.18.

Hearing means an evidentiary hearing on the record, open to the public (to the extent consistent with §22.22(a)(2)), conducted as part of a proceeding under these Consolidated Rules of Practice.

Hearing Clerk means the Hearing Clerk, Mail Code 1900, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

Initial decision means the decision issued by the Presiding Officer pursuant to §§22.17(c), 22.20(b) or 22.27 resolving all outstanding issues in the proceeding.

Party means any person that participates in a proceeding as complainant, respondent, or intervenor.

Permit action means the revocation, suspension or termination of all or part of a permit issued under section 102 of the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (33 U.S.C. 1412) or termination under section 402(a) of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1342(a)) or section 3005(d) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6925(d)).

Person includes any individual, partnership, association, corporation, and any trustee, assignee, receiver or legal successor thereof; any organized group of persons whether incorporated or not; and any officer, employee, agent, department, agency or instrumentality of the Federal Government, of any State or local unit of government, or of any foreign government.

Presiding Officer means an individual who presides in an administrative adjudication until an initial decision becomes final or is appealed. The Presiding Officer shall be an Administrative Law Judge, except where §§22.4(b), 22.16(c) or 22.51 allow a Regional Judicial Officer to serve as Presiding Officer.

Proceeding means the entirety of a single administrative adjudication, from the filing of the complaint through the issuance of a final order, including any action on a motion to reconsider under §22.32.

Regional Administrator means, for a case initiated in an EPA Regional Office, the Regional Administrator for that Region or any officer or employee thereof to whom his authority is duly delegated.

Regional Hearing Clerk means an individual duly authorized to serve as hearing clerk for a given region, who shall be neutral in every proceeding. Correspondence with the Regional Hearing Clerk shall be addressed to the Regional Hearing Clerk at the address specified in the complaint. For a case initiated at EPA Headquarters, the term Regional Hearing Clerk means the Hearing Clerk.

Regional Judicial Officer means a person designated by the Regional Administrator under §22.4(b).

Respondent means any person against whom the complaint states a claim for relief.

(b) Terms defined in the Act and not defined in these Consolidated Rules of Practice are used consistent with the meanings given in the Act.

[64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 30904, May 15, 2000; 79 FR 65901, Nov. 6, 2014]

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§22.4 Powers and duties of the Environmental Appeals Board, Regional Judicial Officer and Presiding Officer; disqualification, withdrawal, and reassignment.

(a) *Environmental Appeals Board.* (1) The Environmental Appeals Board rules on appeals from the initial decisions, rulings and orders of a Presiding Officer in proceedings under these Consolidated Rules of Practice, and approves settlement of proceedings under these Consolidated Rules of Practice commenced at EPA Headquarters. The Environmental Appeals Board may refer any case or motion to the Administrator when the Environmental Appeals Board, in its discretion, deems it appropriate to do so. When an appeal or motion is referred to the Administrator by the Environmental Appeals Board, all parties

shall be so notified and references to the Environmental Appeals Board in these Consolidated Rules of Practice shall be interpreted as referring to the Administrator. If a case or motion is referred to the Administrator by the Environmental Appeals Board, the Administrator may consult with any EPA employee concerning the matter, provided such consultation does not violate §22.8. Motions directed to the Administrator shall not be considered except for motions for disqualification pursuant to paragraph (d) of this section, or motions filed in matters that the Environmental Appeals Board has referred to the Administrator.

(2) In exercising its duties and responsibilities under these Consolidated Rules of Practice, the Environmental Appeals Board may do all acts and take all measures as are necessary for the efficient, fair and impartial adjudication of issues arising in a proceeding, including imposing procedural sanctions against a party who without adequate justification fails or refuses to comply with these Consolidated Rules of Practice or with an order of the Environmental Appeals Board. Such sanctions may include drawing adverse inferences against a party, striking a party's pleadings or other submissions from the record, and denying any or all relief sought by the party in the proceeding.

(b) *Regional Judicial Officer.* Each Regional Administrator shall delegate to one or more Regional Judicial Officers authority to act as Presiding Officer in proceedings under subpart I of this part, and to act as Presiding Officer until the respondent files an answer in proceedings under these Consolidated Rules of Practice to which subpart I of this part does not apply. The Regional Administrator may also delegate to one or more Regional Judicial Officers the authority to approve settlement of proceedings pursuant to §22.18(b)(3). These delegations will not prevent a Regional Judicial Officer from referring any motion or case to the Regional Administrator. A Regional Judicial Officer shall be an attorney who is a permanent or temporary employee of the Agency or another Federal agency and who may perform other duties within the Agency. A Regional Judicial Officer shall not have performed prosecutorial or investigative functions in connection with any case in which he serves as a Regional Judicial Officer. A Regional Judicial Officer shall not knowingly preside over a case involving any party concerning whom the Regional Judicial Officer performed any functions of prosecution or investigation within the 2 years preceding the commencement of the case. A Regional Judicial Officer shall not prosecute enforcement cases and shall not be supervised by any person who supervises the prosecution of enforcement cases, but may be supervised by the Regional Counsel.

(c) *Presiding Officer.* The Presiding Officer shall conduct a fair and impartial proceeding, assure that the facts are fully elicited, adjudicate all issues, and avoid delay. The Presiding Officer may:

- (1) Conduct administrative hearings under these Consolidated Rules of Practice;
- (2) Rule upon motions, requests, and offers of proof, and issue all necessary orders;
- (3) Administer oaths and affirmations and take affidavits;
- (4) Examine witnesses and receive documentary or other evidence;
- (5) Order a party, or an officer or agent thereof, to produce testimony, documents, or other non-privileged evidence, and failing the production thereof without good cause being shown, draw adverse inferences against that party;
- (6) Admit or exclude evidence;
- (7) Hear and decide questions of facts, law, or discretion;
- (8) Require parties to attend conferences for the settlement or simplification of the issues, or the expedition of the proceedings;
- (9) Issue subpoenas authorized by the Act; and
- (10) Do all other acts and take all measures necessary for the maintenance of order and for the efficient, fair and impartial adjudication of issues arising in proceedings governed by these Consolidated Rules of Practice.

(d) *Disqualification, withdrawal and reassignment.* (1) The Administrator, the Regional Administrator, the members of the Environmental Appeals Board, the Regional Judicial Officer, or the Administrative Law Judge may not perform functions provided for in these Consolidated Rules of Practice regarding any matter in which they have a financial interest or have any relationship with a party or with the subject matter which would make it inappropriate for them to act. Any party may at any time by motion to the Administrator, Regional Administrator, a member of the Environmental Appeals Board, the Regional Judicial Officer or the Administrative Law Judge request that he or she disqualify himself or herself from the proceeding. If such a motion to disqualify the Regional Administrator, Regional Judicial Officer or Administrative Law Judge is denied, a party may appeal that ruling to the Environmental Appeals Board. If a motion to disqualify a member of the Environmental Appeals Board is denied, a party may appeal that ruling to the Administrator. There shall be no interlocutory appeal of the ruling on a motion for disqualification. The Administrator, the Regional Administrator, a member of the Environmental Appeals Board, the Regional Judicial Officer, or the Administrative Law Judge may at any time withdraw from any proceeding in which he deems himself disqualified or unable to act for any reason.

(2) If the Administrator, the Regional Administrator, the Regional Judicial Officer, or the Administrative Law Judge is disqualified or withdraws from the proceeding, a qualified individual who has none of the infirmities listed in paragraph (d)(1) of this section shall be assigned as a replacement. The Administrator shall assign a replacement for a Regional Administrator who withdraws or is disqualified. Should the Administrator withdraw or be disqualified, the Regional Administrator from the Region where the case originated shall replace the Administrator. If that Regional Administrator would be disqualified, the Administrator shall assign a Regional Administrator from another Region to replace the Administrator. The Regional Administrator shall assign a new Regional Judicial Officer if the original Regional Judicial Officer withdraws or is disqualified. The Chief Administrative Law Judge shall assign a new Administrative Law Judge if the original Administrative Law Judge withdraws or is disqualified.

(3) The Chief Administrative Law Judge, at any stage in the proceeding, may reassign the case to an Administrative Law Judge other than the one originally assigned in the event of the unavailability of the Administrative Law Judge or where reassignment will result in efficiency in the scheduling of hearings and would not prejudice the parties.

[64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, as amended at 82 FR 2234, Jan. 9, 2017]

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§22.5 Filing, service by the parties, and form of all filed documents; business confidentiality claims.

(a) *Filing of documents.* (1) The original and one copy of each document intended to be part of the record shall be filed with the Headquarters or Regional Hearing Clerk, as appropriate, when the proceeding is before the Presiding Officer, or filed with the Clerk of the Board when the proceeding is before the Environmental Appeals Board. A document is filed when it is received by the appropriate Clerk. When a document is required to be filed with the Environmental Appeals Board, the document shall be sent to the Clerk of the Board by U.S. Mail, delivered by hand or courier (including delivery by U.S. Express Mail or by a commercial delivery service), or transmitted by the Environmental Appeal Board's electronic filing system, according to the procedures specified in 40 CFR 124.19 (i)(2)(i), (ii), and (iii). The Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board may by order authorize or require filing by facsimile or an electronic filing system, subject to any appropriate conditions and limitations.

(2) When the Presiding Officer corresponds directly with the parties, the original of the correspondence shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk. Parties who correspond directly with the Presiding Officer shall file a copy of the correspondence with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

(3) A certificate of service shall accompany each document filed or served in the proceeding.

(b) *Service of documents.* Unless the proceeding is before the Environmental Appeals Board, a copy of each document filed in the proceeding shall be served on the Presiding Officer and on each party. In a proceeding before the Environmental Appeals Board, a copy of each document filed in the proceeding shall be served on each party.

(1) *Service of complaint.* (i) Complainant shall serve on respondent, or a representative authorized to receive service on respondent's behalf, a copy of the signed original of the complaint, together with a copy of these Consolidated Rules of Practice. Service shall be made personally, by certified mail with return receipt requested, or by any reliable commercial delivery service that provides written verification of delivery.

(ii)(A) Where respondent is a domestic or foreign corporation, a partnership, or an unincorporated association which is subject to suit under a common name, complainant shall serve an officer, partner, a managing or general agent, or any other person authorized by appointment or by Federal or State law to receive service of process.

(B) Where respondent is an agency of the United States complainant shall serve that agency as provided by that agency's regulations, or in the absence of controlling regulation, as otherwise permitted by law. Complainant should also provide a copy of the complaint to the senior executive official having responsibility for the overall operations of the geographical unit where the alleged violations arose. If the agency is a corporation, the complaint shall be served as prescribed in paragraph (b)(1)(ii)(A) of this section.

(C) Where respondent is a State or local unit of government, agency, department, corporation or other instrumentality, complainant shall serve the chief executive officer thereof, or as otherwise permitted by law. Where respondent is a State or local officer, complainant shall serve such officer.

(iii) Proof of service of the complaint shall be made by affidavit of the person making personal service, or by properly executed receipt. Such proof of service shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk immediately upon completion of service.

(2) *Service of filed documents other than the complaint, rulings, orders, and decisions.* All documents filed by a party other than the complaint, rulings, orders, and decisions shall be served by the filing party on all other parties. Service may be made personally, by U.S. mail (including certified mail, return receipt requested, Overnight Express and Priority Mail), by any reliable commercial delivery service, or by facsimile or other electronic means, including but not necessarily limited to email, if service by such electronic means is consented to in writing. A party who consents to service by facsimile or email must file an

acknowledgement of its consent (identifying the type of electronic means agreed to and the electronic address to be used) with the appropriate Clerk. In addition, the Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board may by order authorize or require service by facsimile, email, or other electronic means, subject to any appropriate conditions and limitations.

(c) *Form of documents.* (1) Except as provided in this section, or by order of the Presiding Officer or of the Environmental Appeals Board there are no specific requirements as to the form of documents.

(2) The first page of every filed document shall contain a caption identifying the respondent and the docket number. All legal briefs and legal memoranda greater than 20 pages in length (excluding attachments) shall contain a table of contents and a table of authorities with page references.

(3) The original of any filed document (other than exhibits) shall be signed by the party filing or by its attorney or other representative. The signature constitutes a representation by the signer that he has read the document, that to the best of his knowledge, information and belief, the statements made therein are true, and that it is not interposed for delay.

(4) The first document filed by any person shall contain the name, mailing address, telephone number, and email address of an individual authorized to receive service relating to the proceeding on behalf of the person. Parties shall promptly file any changes in this information with the Headquarters or Regional Hearing Clerk or the Clerk of the Board, as appropriate, and serve copies on the Presiding Officer and all parties to the proceeding. If a party fails to furnish such information and any changes thereto, service to the party's last known address shall satisfy the requirements of paragraph (b)(2) of this section and §22.6.

(5) The Environmental Appeals Board or the Presiding Officer may exclude from the record any document which does not comply with this section. Written notice of such exclusion, stating the reasons therefor, shall be promptly given to the person submitting the document. Such person may amend and resubmit any excluded document upon motion granted by the Environmental Appeals Board or the Presiding Officer, as appropriate.

(d) *Confidentiality of business information.* (1) A person who wishes to assert a business confidentiality claim with regard to any information contained in any document to be filed in a proceeding under these Consolidated Rules of Practice shall assert such a claim in accordance with 40 CFR part 2 at the time that the document is filed. A document filed without a claim of business confidentiality shall be available to the public for inspection and copying.

(2) Two versions of any document which contains information claimed confidential shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk:

(i) One version of the document shall contain the information claimed confidential. The cover page shall include the information required under paragraph (c)(2) of this section and the words "Business Confidentiality Asserted". The specific portion(s) alleged to be confidential shall be clearly identified within the document.

(ii) A second version of the document shall contain all information except the specific information claimed confidential, which shall be redacted and replaced with notes indicating the nature of the information redacted. The cover page shall state that information claimed confidential has been deleted and that a complete copy of the document containing the information claimed confidential has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

(3) Both versions of the document shall be served on the Presiding Officer and the complainant. Both versions of the document shall be served on any party, non-party participant, or representative thereof, authorized to receive the information claimed confidential by the person making the claim of confidentiality. Only the redacted version shall be served on persons not authorized to receive the confidential information.

(4) Only the second, redacted version shall be treated as public information. An EPA officer or employee may disclose information claimed confidential in accordance with paragraph (d)(1) of this section only as authorized under 40 CFR part 2.

[64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, as amended at 69 FR 77639, Dec. 28, 2004; 79 FR 65901, Nov. 6, 2014; 82 FR 2234, Jan. 9, 2017]

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§22.6 Filing and service of rulings, orders and decisions.

All rulings, orders, decisions, and other documents issued by the Regional Administrator or Presiding Officer shall be filed with the Headquarters or Regional Hearing Clerk, as appropriate, in any manner allowed for the service of such documents. All rulings, orders, decisions, and other documents issued by the Environmental Appeals Board shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board. The Clerk of the Board, the Headquarters Hearing Clerk, or the Regional Hearing Clerk, as appropriate, must serve copies of such rulings, orders, decisions and other documents on all parties. Service may be made by U.S. mail (including by certified mail or return receipt requested, Overnight Express and Priority Mail), EPA's internal mail, any reliable commercial delivery service, or electronic means (including but not necessarily limited to facsimile and email).

[82 FR 2234, Jan. 9, 2017]

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§22.7 Computation and extension of time.

(a) *Computation.* In computing any period of time prescribed or allowed in these Consolidated Rules of Practice, except as otherwise provided, the day of the event from which the designated period begins to run shall not be included. Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays shall be included. When a stated time expires on a Saturday, Sunday or Federal holiday, the stated time period shall be extended to include the next business day.

(b) *Extensions of time.* The Environmental Appeals Board or the Presiding Officer may grant an extension of time for filing any document: upon timely motion of a party to the proceeding, for good cause shown, and after consideration of prejudice to other parties; or upon its own initiative. Any motion for an extension of time shall be filed sufficiently in advance of the due date so as to allow other parties reasonable opportunity to respond and to allow the Presiding Officer or Environmental Appeals Board reasonable opportunity to issue an order.

(c) *Completion of service.* Service of the complaint is complete when the return receipt is signed. Service of all other documents is complete upon mailing, when placed in the custody of a reliable commercial delivery service, or for facsimile or other electronic means, including but not necessarily limited to email, upon transmission. Where a document is served by U.S. mail, EPA internal mail, or commercial delivery service, including overnight or same-day delivery, 3 days shall be added to the time allowed by these Consolidated Rules of Practice for the filing of a responsive document. The time allowed for the serving of a responsive document is not expanded by 3 days when the served document is served by personal delivery, facsimile, or other electronic means, including but not necessarily limited to email.

[64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, as amended at 82 FR 2234, Jan. 9, 2017]

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§22.8 *Ex parte* discussion of proceeding.

At no time after the issuance of the complaint shall the Administrator, the members of the Environmental Appeals Board, the Regional Administrator, the Presiding Officer or any other person who is likely to advise these officials on any decision in the proceeding, discuss *ex parte* the merits of the proceeding with any interested person outside the Agency, with any Agency staff member who performs a prosecutorial or investigative function in such proceeding or a factually related proceeding, or with any representative of such person. Any *ex parte* memorandum or other communication addressed to the Administrator, the Regional Administrator, the Environmental Appeals Board, or the Presiding Officer during the pendency of the proceeding and relating to the merits thereof, by or on behalf of any party shall be regarded as argument made in the proceeding and shall be served upon all other parties. The other parties shall be given an opportunity to reply to such memorandum or communication. The requirements of this section shall not apply to any person who has formally recused himself from all adjudicatory functions in a proceeding, or who issues final orders only pursuant to §22.18(b)(3).

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§22.9 Examination of documents filed.

(a) Subject to the provisions of law restricting the public disclosure of confidential information, any person may, during Agency business hours inspect and copy any document filed in any proceeding. Such documents shall be made available by the Regional Hearing Clerk, the Hearing Clerk, or the Clerk of the Board, as appropriate.

(b) The cost of duplicating documents shall be borne by the person seeking copies of such documents. The Agency may waive this cost in its discretion.

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Subpart B—Parties and Appearances

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§22.10 Appearances.

Any party may appear in person or by counsel or other representative. A partner may appear on behalf of a partnership and an officer may appear on behalf of a corporation. Persons who appear as counsel or other representative must conform to the standards of conduct and ethics required of practitioners before the courts of the United States.

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§22.11 Intervention and non-party briefs.

(a) *Intervention.* Any person desiring to become a party to a proceeding may move for leave to intervene. A motion for leave to intervene that is filed after the exchange of information pursuant to §22.19(a) shall not be granted unless the movant shows good cause for its failure to file before such exchange of information. All requirements of these Consolidated Rules of Practice shall apply to a motion for leave to intervene as if the movant were a party. The Presiding Officer shall grant leave to intervene in all or part of the proceeding if: the movant claims an interest relating to the cause of action; a final order may as a practical matter impair the movant's ability to protect that interest; and the movant's interest is not adequately represented by existing parties. The intervenor shall be bound by any agreements, arrangements and other matters previously made in the proceeding unless otherwise ordered by the Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board for good cause.

(b) *Non-party briefs.* Any person who is not a party to a proceeding may move for leave to file a non-party brief. The motion shall identify the interest of the applicant and shall explain the relevance of the brief to the proceeding. All requirements of these Consolidated Rules of Practice shall apply to the motion as if the movant were a party. If the motion is granted, the Presiding Officer or Environmental Appeals Board shall issue an order setting the time for filing such brief. Any party to the proceeding may file a response to a non-party brief within 15 days after service of the non-party brief.

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§22.12 Consolidation and severance.

(a) *Consolidation.* The Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board may consolidate any or all matters at issue in two or more proceedings subject to these Consolidated Rules of Practice where: there exist common parties or common questions of fact or law; consolidation would expedite and simplify consideration of the issues; and consolidation would not adversely affect the rights of parties engaged in otherwise separate proceedings. Proceedings subject to subpart I of this part may be consolidated only upon the approval of all parties. Where a proceeding subject to the provisions of subpart I of this part is consolidated with a proceeding to which subpart I of this part does not apply, the procedures of subpart I of this part shall not apply to the consolidated proceeding.

(b) *Severance.* The Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board may, for good cause, order any proceedings severed with respect to any or all parties or issues.

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Subpart C—Prehearing Procedures

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§22.13 Commencement of a proceeding.

(a) Any proceeding subject to these Consolidated Rules of Practice is commenced by filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk a complaint conforming to §22.14.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this section, where the parties agree to settlement of one or more causes of action before the filing of a complaint, a proceeding may be simultaneously commenced and concluded by the issuance of a consent agreement and final order pursuant to §22.18(b)(2) and (3).

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§22.14 Complaint.

(a) *Content of complaint.* Each complaint shall include:

- (1) A statement reciting the section(s) of the Act authorizing the issuance of the complaint;
- (2) Specific reference to each provision of the Act, implementing regulations, permit or order which respondent is alleged to have violated;
- (3) A concise statement of the factual basis for each violation alleged;
- (4) A description of all relief sought, including one or more of the following:
 - (i) The amount of the civil penalty which is proposed to be assessed, and a brief explanation of the proposed penalty;
 - (ii) Where a specific penalty demand is not made, the number of violations (where applicable, days of violation) for which a penalty is sought, a brief explanation of the severity of each violation alleged and a recitation of the statutory penalty authority

applicable for each violation alleged in the complaint;

- (iii) A request for a Permit Action and a statement of its proposed terms and conditions; or
- (iv) A request for a compliance or corrective action order and a statement of the terms and conditions thereof;

(5) Notice of respondent's right to request a hearing on any material fact alleged in the complaint, or on the appropriateness of any proposed penalty, compliance or corrective action order, or Permit Action;

(6) Notice if subpart I of this part applies to the proceeding;

(7) The address of the Regional Hearing Clerk; and

(8) Instructions for paying penalties, if applicable.

(b) *Rules of practice.* A copy of these Consolidated Rules of Practice shall accompany each complaint served.

(c) *Amendment of the complaint.* The complainant may amend the complaint once as a matter of right at any time before the answer is filed. Otherwise the complainant may amend the complaint only upon motion granted by the Presiding Officer. Respondent shall have 20 additional days from the date of service of the amended complaint to file its answer.

(d) *Withdrawal of the complaint.* The complainant may withdraw the complaint, or any part thereof, without prejudice one time before the answer has been filed. After one withdrawal before the filing of an answer, or after the filing of an answer, the complainant may withdraw the complaint, or any part thereof, without prejudice only upon motion granted by the Presiding Officer.

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§22.15 Answer to the complaint.

(a) *General.* Where respondent: Contests any material fact upon which the complaint is based; contends that the proposed penalty, compliance or corrective action order, or Permit Action, as the case may be, is inappropriate; or contends that it is entitled to judgment as a matter of law, it shall file an original and one copy of a written answer to the complaint with the Regional Hearing Clerk and shall serve copies of the answer on all other parties. Any such answer to the complaint must be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk within 30 days after service of the complaint.

(b) *Contents of the answer.* The answer shall clearly and directly admit, deny or explain each of the factual allegations contained in the complaint with regard to which respondent has any knowledge. Where respondent has no knowledge of a particular factual allegation and so states, the allegation is deemed denied. The answer shall also state: The circumstances or arguments which are alleged to constitute the grounds of any defense; the facts which respondent disputes; the basis for opposing any proposed relief; and whether a hearing is requested.

(c) *Request for a hearing.* A hearing upon the issues raised by the complaint and answer may be held if requested by respondent in its answer. If the respondent does not request a hearing, the Presiding Officer may hold a hearing if issues appropriate for adjudication are raised in the answer.

(d) *Failure to admit, deny, or explain.* Failure of respondent to admit, deny, or explain any material factual allegation contained in the complaint constitutes an admission of the allegation.

(e) *Amendment of the answer.* The respondent may amend the answer to the complaint upon motion granted by the Presiding Officer.

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§22.16 Motions.

(a) *General.* Motions shall be served as provided by §22.5(b)(2). Upon the filing of a motion, other parties may file responses to the motion and the movant may file a reply to the response. Any additional responsive documents shall be permitted only by order of the Presiding Officer or Environmental Appeals Board, as appropriate. All motions, except those made orally on the record during a hearing, shall:

- (1) Be in writing;
- (2) State the grounds therefor, with particularity;
- (3) Set forth the relief sought; and

(4) Be accompanied by any affidavit, certificate, other evidence or legal memorandum relied upon.

(b) *Response to motions.* A party's response to any written motion must be filed within 15 days after service of such motion. The movant's reply to any written response must be filed within 10 days after service of such response and shall be limited to issues raised in the response. The Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board may set a shorter or longer time for response or reply, or make other orders concerning the disposition of motions. The response or reply shall be accompanied by any affidavit, certificate, other evidence, or legal memorandum relied upon. Any party who fails to respond within the designated period waives any objection to the granting of the motion.

(c) *Decision.* The Regional Judicial Officer (or in a proceeding commenced at EPA Headquarters, an Administrative Law Judge) shall rule on all motions filed or made before an answer to the complaint is filed. Except as provided in §§22.29(c) and 22.51, an Administrative Law Judge shall rule on all motions filed or made after an answer is filed and before an initial decision becomes final or has been appealed. The Environmental Appeals Board shall rule as provided in §22.29(c) and on all motions filed or made after an appeal of the initial decision is filed, except as provided pursuant to §22.28.

(d) *Oral argument.* The Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board may permit oral argument on motions in its discretion.

[64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, as amended at 82 FR 2234, Jan. 9, 2017]

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§22.17 Default.

(a) *Default.* A party may be found to be in default: after motion, upon failure to file a timely answer to the complaint; upon failure to comply with the information exchange requirements of §22.19(a) or an order of the Presiding Officer; or upon failure to appear at a conference or hearing. Default by respondent constitutes, for purposes of the pending proceeding only, an admission of all facts alleged in the complaint and a waiver of respondent's right to contest such factual allegations. Default by complainant constitutes a waiver of complainant's right to proceed on the merits of the action, and shall result in the dismissal of the complaint with prejudice.

(b) *Motion for default.* A motion for default may seek resolution of all or part of the proceeding. Where the motion requests the assessment of a penalty or the imposition of other relief against a defaulting party, the movant must specify the penalty or other relief sought and state the legal and factual grounds for the relief requested.

(c) *Default order.* When the Presiding Officer finds that default has occurred, he shall issue a default order against the defaulting party as to any or all parts of the proceeding unless the record shows good cause why a default order should not be issued. If the order resolves all outstanding issues and claims in the proceeding, it shall constitute the initial decision under these Consolidated Rules of Practice. The relief proposed in the complaint or the motion for default shall be ordered unless the requested relief is clearly inconsistent with the record of the proceeding or the Act. For good cause shown, the Presiding Officer may set aside a default order.

(d) *Payment of penalty; effective date of compliance or corrective action orders, and Permit Actions.* Any penalty assessed in the default order shall become due and payable by respondent without further proceedings 30 days after the default order becomes final under §22.27(c). Any default order requiring compliance or corrective action shall be effective and enforceable without further proceedings on the date the default order becomes final under §22.27(c). Any Permit Action ordered in the default order shall become effective without further proceedings on the date that the default order becomes final under §22.27(c).

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§22.18 Quick resolution; settlement; alternative dispute resolution.

(a) *Quick resolution.* (1) A respondent may resolve the proceeding at any time by paying the specific penalty proposed in the complaint or in complainant's prehearing exchange in full as specified by complainant and by filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk a copy of the check or other instrument of payment. If the complaint contains a specific proposed penalty and respondent pays that proposed penalty in full within 30 days after receiving the complaint, then no answer need be filed. This paragraph (a) shall not apply to any complaint which seeks a compliance or corrective action order or Permit Action. In a proceeding subject to the public comment provisions of §22.45, this quick resolution is not available until 10 days after the close of the comment period.

(2) Any respondent who wishes to resolve a proceeding by paying the proposed penalty instead of filing an answer, but who needs additional time to pay the penalty, may file a written statement with the Regional Hearing Clerk within 30 days after receiving the complaint stating that the respondent agrees to pay the proposed penalty in accordance with paragraph (a)(1) of this section. The written statement need not contain any response to, or admission of, the allegations in the complaint. Within

60 days after receiving the complaint, the respondent shall pay the full amount of the proposed penalty. Failure to make such payment within 60 days of receipt of the complaint may subject the respondent to default pursuant to §22.17.

(3) Upon receipt of payment in full, the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator, or, in a proceeding commenced at EPA Headquarters, the Environmental Appeals Board, shall issue a final order. Payment by respondent shall constitute a waiver of respondent's rights to contest the allegations and to appeal the final order.

(b) *Settlement.* (1) The Agency encourages settlement of a proceeding at any time if the settlement is consistent with the provisions and objectives of the Act and applicable regulations. The parties may engage in settlement discussions whether or not the respondent requests a hearing. Settlement discussions shall not affect the respondent's obligation to file a timely answer under §22.15.

(2) *Consent agreement.* Any and all terms and conditions of a settlement shall be recorded in a written consent agreement signed by all parties or their representatives. The consent agreement shall state that, for the purpose of the proceeding, respondent: Admits the jurisdictional allegations of the complaint; admits the facts stipulated in the consent agreement or neither admits nor denies specific factual allegations contained in the complaint; consents to the assessment of any stated civil penalty, to the issuance of any specified compliance or corrective action order, to any conditions specified in the consent agreement, and to any stated Permit Action; and waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed final order accompanying the consent agreement. Where complainant elects to commence a proceeding pursuant to §22.13(b), the consent agreement shall also contain the elements described at §22.14(a)(1)-(3) and (8). The parties shall forward the executed consent agreement and a proposed final order to the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator, or, in a proceeding commenced at EPA Headquarters, the Environmental Appeals Board.

(3) *Conclusion of proceeding.* No settlement or consent agreement shall dispose of any proceeding under these Consolidated Rules of Practice without a final order from the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator, or, in a proceeding commenced at EPA Headquarters, the Environmental Appeals Board, ratifying the parties' consent agreement.

(c) *Scope of resolution or settlement.* Full payment of the penalty proposed in a complaint pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section or settlement pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall not in any case affect the right of the Agency or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. Full payment of the penalty proposed in a complaint pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section or settlement pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall only resolve respondent's liability for Federal civil penalties for the violations and facts alleged in the complaint.

(d) *Alternative means of dispute resolution.* (1) The parties may engage in any process within the scope of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act ("ADRA"), 5 U.S.C. 581 *et seq.*, which may facilitate voluntary settlement efforts. Such process shall be subject to the confidentiality provisions of the ADRA.

(2) Dispute resolution under this paragraph (d) does not divest the Presiding Officer of jurisdiction and does not automatically stay the proceeding. All provisions of these Consolidated Rules of Practice remain in effect notwithstanding any dispute resolution proceeding.

(3) The parties may choose any person to act as a neutral, or may move for the appointment of a neutral. If the Presiding Officer grants a motion for the appointment of a neutral, the Presiding Officer shall forward the motion to the Chief Administrative Law Judge, except in proceedings under subpart I of this part, in which the Presiding Officer shall forward the motion to the Regional Administrator. The Chief Administrative Law Judge or Regional Administrator, as appropriate, shall designate a qualified neutral.

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§22.19 Prehearing information exchange; prehearing conference; other discovery.

(a) *Prehearing information exchange.* (1) In accordance with an order issued by the Presiding Officer, each party shall file a prehearing information exchange. Except as provided in §22.22(a), a document or exhibit that has not been included in prehearing information exchange shall not be admitted into evidence, and any witness whose name and testimony summary has not been included in prehearing information exchange shall not be allowed to testify. Parties are not required to exchange information relating to settlement which would be excluded in the federal courts under Rule 408 of the Federal Rules of Evidence. Documents and exhibits shall be marked for identification as ordered by the Presiding Officer.

(2) Each party's prehearing information exchange shall contain:

(i) The names of any expert or other witnesses it intends to call at the hearing, together with a brief narrative summary of their expected testimony, or a statement that no witnesses will be called; and (ii) Copies of all documents and exhibits which it intends to introduce into evidence at the hearing.

(3) If the proceeding is for the assessment of a penalty and complainant has already specified a proposed penalty, complainant shall explain in its prehearing information exchange how the proposed penalty was calculated in accordance with any criteria set forth in the Act, and the respondent shall explain in its prehearing information exchange why the proposed penalty should be reduced or eliminated.

(4) If the proceeding is for the assessment of a penalty and complainant has not specified a proposed penalty, each party shall include in its prehearing information exchange all factual information it considers relevant to the assessment of a penalty. Within 15 days after respondent files its prehearing information exchange, complainant shall file a document specifying a proposed penalty and explaining how the proposed penalty was calculated in accordance with any criteria set forth in the Act.

(b) *Prehearing conference.* The Presiding Officer, at any time before the hearing begins, may direct the parties and their counsel or other representatives to participate in a conference to consider:

(1) Settlement of the case;

(2) Simplification of issues and stipulation of facts not in dispute;

(3) The necessity or desirability of amendments to pleadings;

(4) The exchange of exhibits, documents, prepared testimony, and admissions or stipulations of fact which will avoid unnecessary proof;

(5) The limitation of the number of expert or other witnesses;

(6) The time and place for the hearing; and

(7) Any other matters which may expedite the disposition of the proceeding.

(c) *Record of the prehearing conference.* No transcript of a prehearing conference relating to settlement shall be made. With respect to other prehearing conferences, no transcript of any prehearing conferences shall be made unless ordered by the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer shall ensure that the record of the proceeding includes any stipulations, agreements, rulings or orders made during the conference.

(d) *Location of prehearing conference.* The prehearing conference shall be held in the county where the respondent resides or conducts the business which the hearing concerns, in the city in which the relevant Environmental Protection Agency Regional Office is located, or in Washington, DC, unless the Presiding Officer determines that there is good cause to hold it at another location or by telephone.

(e) *Other discovery.* (1) After the information exchange provided for in paragraph (a) of this section, a party may move for additional discovery. The motion shall specify the method of discovery sought, provide the proposed discovery instruments, and describe in detail the nature of the information and/or documents sought (and, where relevant, the proposed time and place where discovery would be conducted). The Presiding Officer may order such other discovery only if it:

(i) Will neither unreasonably delay the proceeding nor unreasonably burden the non-moving party;

(ii) Seeks information that is most reasonably obtained from the non-moving party, and which the non-moving party has refused to provide voluntarily; and

(iii) Seeks information that has significant probative value on a disputed issue of material fact relevant to liability or the relief sought.

(2) Settlement positions and information regarding their development (such as penalty calculations for purposes of settlement based upon Agency settlement policies) shall not be discoverable.

(3) The Presiding Officer may order depositions upon oral questions only in accordance with paragraph (e)(1) of this section and upon an additional finding that:

(i) The information sought cannot reasonably be obtained by alternative methods of discovery; or

(ii) There is a substantial reason to believe that relevant and probative evidence may otherwise not be preserved for presentation by a witness at the hearing.

(4) The Presiding Officer may require the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary evidence by subpoena, if authorized under the Act. The Presiding Officer may issue a subpoena for discovery purposes only in accordance with paragraph (e)(1) of this section and upon an additional showing of the grounds and necessity therefor. Subpoenas shall be served in accordance with §22.5(b)(1). Witnesses summoned before the Presiding Officer shall be paid the same fees and

mileage that are paid witnesses in the courts of the United States. Any fees shall be paid by the party at whose request the witness appears. Where a witness appears pursuant to a request initiated by the Presiding Officer, fees shall be paid by the Agency.

(5) Nothing in this paragraph (e) shall limit a party's right to request admissions or stipulations, a respondent's right to request Agency records under the Federal Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552, or EPA's authority under any applicable law to conduct inspections, issue information request letters or administrative subpoenas, or otherwise obtain information.

(f) *Supplementing prior exchanges.* A party who has made an information exchange under paragraph (a) of this section, or who has exchanged information in response to a request for information or a discovery order pursuant to paragraph (e) of this section, shall promptly supplement or correct the exchange when the party learns that the information exchanged or response provided is incomplete, inaccurate or outdated, and the additional or corrective information has not otherwise been disclosed to the other party pursuant to this section.

(g) *Failure to exchange information.* Where a party fails to provide information within its control as required pursuant to this section, the Presiding Officer may, in his discretion:

- (1) Infer that the information would be adverse to the party failing to provide it;
- (2) Exclude the information from evidence; or
- (3) Issue a default order under §22.17(c).

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§22.20 Accelerated decision; decision to dismiss.

(a) *General.* The Presiding Officer may at any time render an accelerated decision in favor of a party as to any or all parts of the proceeding, without further hearing or upon such limited additional evidence, such as affidavits, as he may require, if no genuine issue of material fact exists and a party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. The Presiding Officer, upon motion of the respondent, may at any time dismiss a proceeding without further hearing or upon such limited additional evidence as he requires, on the basis of failure to establish a prima facie case or other grounds which show no right to relief on the part of the complainant.

(b) *Effect.* (1) If an accelerated decision or a decision to dismiss is issued as to all issues and claims in the proceeding, the decision constitutes an initial decision of the Presiding Officer, and shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

(2) If an accelerated decision or a decision to dismiss is rendered on less than all issues or claims in the proceeding, the Presiding Officer shall determine what material facts exist without substantial controversy and what material facts remain controverted. The partial accelerated decision or the order dismissing certain counts shall specify the facts which appear substantially uncontroverted, and the issues and claims upon which the hearing will proceed.

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Subpart D—Hearing Procedures

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§22.21 Assignment of Presiding Officer; scheduling the hearing.

(a) *Assignment of Presiding Officer.* When an answer is filed, the Regional Hearing Clerk shall forward a copy of the complaint, the answer, and any other documents filed in the proceeding to the Chief Administrative Law Judge who shall serve as Presiding Officer or assign another Administrative Law Judge as Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer shall then obtain the case file from the Chief Administrative Law Judge and notify the parties of his assignment.

(b) *Notice of hearing.* The Presiding Officer shall hold a hearing if the proceeding presents genuine issues of material fact. The Presiding Officer shall serve upon the parties a notice of hearing setting forth a time and place for the hearing not later than 30 days prior to the date set for the hearing. The Presiding Officer may require the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary evidence by subpoena, if authorized under the Act, upon a showing of the grounds and necessity therefor, and the materiality and relevancy of the evidence to be adduced.

(c) *Postponement of hearing.* No request for postponement of a hearing shall be granted except upon motion and for good cause shown.

(d) *Location of the hearing.* The location of the hearing shall be determined in accordance with the method for determining the location of a prehearing conference under §22.19(d).

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§22.22 Evidence.

(a) *General.* (1) The Presiding Officer shall admit all evidence which is not irrelevant, immaterial, unduly repetitious, unreliable, or of little probative value, except that evidence relating to settlement which would be excluded in the federal courts under Rule 408 of the Federal Rules of Evidence (28 U.S.C.) is not admissible. If, however, a party fails to provide any document, exhibit, witness name or summary of expected testimony required to be exchanged under §22.19 (a), (e) or (f) to all parties at least 15 days before the hearing date, the Presiding Officer shall not admit the document, exhibit or testimony into evidence, unless the non-exchanging party had good cause for failing to exchange the required information and provided the required information to all other parties as soon as it had control of the information, or had good cause for not doing so.

(2) In the presentation, admission, disposition, and use of oral and written evidence, EPA officers, employees and authorized representatives shall preserve the confidentiality of information claimed confidential, whether or not the claim is made by a party to the proceeding, unless disclosure is authorized pursuant to 40 CFR part 2. A business confidentiality claim shall not prevent information from being introduced into evidence, but shall instead require that the information be treated in accordance with 40 CFR part 2, subpart B. The Presiding Officer or the Environmental Appeals Board may consider such evidence in a proceeding closed to the public, and which may be before some, but not all, parties, as necessary. Such proceeding shall be closed only to the extent necessary to comply with 40 CFR part 2, subpart B, for information claimed confidential. Any affected person may move for an order protecting the information claimed confidential.

(b) *Examination of witnesses.* Witnesses shall be examined orally, under oath or affirmation, except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (c) and (d) of this section or by the Presiding Officer. Parties shall have the right to cross-examine a witness who appears at the hearing provided that such cross-examination is not unduly repetitious.

(c) *Written testimony.* The Presiding Officer may admit and insert into the record as evidence, in lieu of oral testimony, written testimony prepared by a witness. The admissibility of any part of the testimony shall be subject to the same rules as if the testimony were produced under oral examination. Before any such testimony is read or admitted into evidence, the party who has called the witness shall deliver a copy of the testimony to the Presiding Officer, the reporter, and opposing counsel. The witness presenting the testimony shall swear to or affirm the testimony and shall be subject to appropriate oral cross-examination.

(d) *Admission of affidavits where the witness is unavailable.* The Presiding Officer may admit into evidence affidavits of witnesses who are unavailable. The term "unavailable" shall have the meaning accorded to it by Rule 804(a) of the Federal Rules of Evidence.

(e) *Exhibits.* Where practicable, an original and one copy of each exhibit shall be filed with the Presiding Officer for the record and a copy shall be furnished to each party. A true copy of any exhibit may be substituted for the original.

(f) *Official notice.* Official notice may be taken of any matter which can be judicially noticed in the Federal courts and of other facts within the specialized knowledge and experience of the Agency. Opposing parties shall be given adequate opportunity to show that such facts are erroneously noticed.

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§22.23 Objections and offers of proof.

(a) *Objection.* Any objection concerning the conduct of the hearing may be stated orally or in writing during the hearing. The party raising the objection must supply a short statement of its grounds. The ruling by the Presiding Officer on any objection and the reasons given for it shall be part of the record. An exception to each objection overruled shall be automatic and is not waived by further participation in the hearing.

(b) *Offers of proof.* Whenever the Presiding Officer denies a motion for admission into evidence, the party offering the information may make an offer of proof, which shall be included in the record. The offer of proof for excluded oral testimony shall consist of a brief statement describing the nature of the information excluded. The offer of proof for excluded documents or exhibits shall consist of the documents or exhibits excluded. Where the Environmental Appeals Board decides that the ruling of the Presiding Officer in excluding the information from evidence was both erroneous and prejudicial, the hearing may be reopened to permit the taking of such evidence.

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§22.24 Burden of presentation; burden of persuasion; preponderance of the evidence standard.

(a) The complainant has the burdens of presentation and persuasion that the violation occurred as set forth in the complaint and that the relief sought is appropriate. Following complainant's establishment of a prima facie case, respondent shall have the burden of presenting any defense to the allegations set forth in the complaint and any response or evidence with respect to the appropriate relief. The respondent has the burdens of presentation and persuasion for any affirmative defenses.

(b) Each matter of controversy shall be decided by the Presiding Officer upon a preponderance of the evidence.

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§22.25 Filing the transcript.

The hearing shall be transcribed verbatim. Promptly following the taking of the last evidence, the reporter shall transmit to the Regional Hearing Clerk the original and as many copies of the transcript of testimony as are called for in the reporter's contract with the Agency, and also shall transmit to the Presiding Officer a copy of the transcript. A certificate of service shall accompany each copy of the transcript. The Regional Hearing Clerk shall notify all parties of the availability of the transcript and shall furnish the parties with a copy of the transcript upon payment of the cost of reproduction, unless a party can show that the cost is unduly burdensome. Any person not a party to the proceeding may receive a copy of the transcript upon payment of the reproduction fee, except for those parts of the transcript ordered to be kept confidential by the Presiding Officer. Any party may file a motion to conform the transcript to the actual testimony within 30 days after receipt of the transcript, or 45 days after the parties are notified of the availability of the transcript, whichever is sooner.

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§22.26 Proposed findings, conclusions, and order.

After the hearing, any party may file proposed findings of fact, conclusions of law, and a proposed order, together with briefs in support thereof. The Presiding Officer shall set a schedule for filing these documents and any reply briefs, but shall not require them before the last date for filing motions under §22.25 to conform the transcript to the actual testimony. All submissions shall be in writing, shall be served upon all parties, and shall contain adequate references to the record and authorities relied on.

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Subpart E—Initial Decision, Motion To Reopen a Hearing, and Motion To Set Aside a Default Order

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§22.27 Initial Decision.

(a) *Filing and contents.* After the period for filing briefs under §22.26 has expired, the Presiding Officer shall issue an initial decision. The initial decision shall contain findings of fact, conclusions regarding all material issues of law or discretion, as well as reasons therefor, and, if appropriate, a recommended civil penalty assessment, compliance order, corrective action order, or Permit Action. Upon receipt of an initial decision, the Regional Hearing Clerk shall forward copies of the initial decision to the Environmental Appeals Board and the Assistant Administrator for the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance.

(b) *Amount of civil penalty.* If the Presiding Officer determines that a violation has occurred and the complaint seeks a civil penalty, the Presiding Officer shall determine the amount of the recommended civil penalty based on the evidence in the record and in accordance with any penalty criteria set forth in the Act. The Presiding Officer shall consider any civil penalty guidelines issued under the Act. The Presiding Officer shall explain in detail in the initial decision how the penalty to be assessed corresponds to any penalty criteria set forth in the Act. If the Presiding Officer decides to assess a penalty different in amount from the penalty proposed by complainant, the Presiding Officer shall set forth in the initial decision the specific reasons for the increase or decrease. If the respondent has defaulted, the Presiding Officer shall not assess a penalty greater than that proposed by complainant in the complaint, the prehearing information exchange or the motion for default, whichever is less.

(c) *Effect of initial decision.* The initial decision of the Presiding Officer shall become a final order 45 days after its service upon the parties and without further proceedings unless:

- (1) A party moves to reopen the hearing;
- (2) A party appeals the initial decision to the Environmental Appeals Board;
- (3) A party moves to set aside a default order that constitutes an initial decision; or
- (4) The Environmental Appeals Board elects to review the initial decision on its own initiative.

(d) *Exhaustion of administrative remedies.* Where a respondent fails to appeal an initial decision to the Environmental Appeals Board pursuant to §22.30 and that initial decision becomes a final order pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section, respondent waives its rights to judicial review. An initial decision that is appealed to the Environmental Appeals Board shall not be final or operative pending the Environmental Appeals Board's issuance of a final order.

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§22.28 Motion to reopen a hearing or to set aside a default order.

(a) *Motion to reopen a hearing—(1) Filing and content.* A motion to reopen a hearing to take further evidence must be filed no later than 20 days after service of the initial decision and shall state the specific grounds upon which relief is sought. Where the movant seeks to introduce new evidence, the motion shall: State briefly the nature and purpose of the evidence to be adduced; show that such evidence is not cumulative; and show good cause why such evidence was not adduced at the hearing. The motion shall be made to the Presiding Officer and filed with the Headquarters or Regional Hearing Clerk, as appropriate. A copy of the motion shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board in the manner prescribed by §22.5(a)(1).

(2) *Disposition of motion to reopen a hearing.* Within 15 days following the service of a motion to reopen a hearing, any other party to the proceeding may file with the Headquarters or Regional Hearing Clerk, as appropriate, and serve on all other parties a response. A reopened hearing shall be governed by the applicable sections of these Consolidated Rules of Practice. The timely filing of a motion to reopen a hearing shall automatically toll the running of the time periods for an initial decision becoming final under §22.27(c), for appeal under §22.30, and for the Environmental Appeals Board to elect to review the initial decision on its own initiative pursuant to §22.30(b). These time periods begin again in full when the Presiding Officer serves an order denying the motion to reopen the hearing or an amended decision. The Presiding Officer may summarily deny subsequent motions to reopen a hearing filed by the same party if the Presiding Officer determines that the motion was filed to delay the finality of the decision.

(b) *Motion to set aside default order—(1) Filing and content.* A motion to set aside a default order must be filed no later than 20 days after service of the initial decision and shall state the specific grounds upon which relief is sought. The motion shall be made to the Presiding Officer and filed with the Headquarters or Regional Hearing Clerk, as appropriate. A copy of the motion shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board in the manner prescribed by §22.5(a)(1).

(2) *Effect of motion to set aside default.* The timely filing of a motion to set aside a default order automatically tolls the running of the time periods for an initial decision becoming final under §22.27(c), for appeal under §22.30(a), and for the Environmental Appeals Board to elect to review the initial decision on its own initiative pursuant to §22.30(b). These time periods begin again in full when the Presiding Officer serves an order denying the motion to set aside or an amended decision. The Presiding Officer may summarily deny subsequent motions to set aside a default order filed by the same party if the Presiding Officer determines that the motion was filed to delay the finality of the decision.

[82 FR 2235, Jan. 9, 2017]

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Subpart F—Appeals and Administrative Review

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§22.29 Appeal from or review of interlocutory orders or rulings.

(a) *Request for interlocutory appeal.* Appeals from orders or rulings other than an initial decision shall be allowed only at the discretion of the Environmental Appeals Board. A party seeking interlocutory appeal of such orders or rulings to the Environmental Appeals Board shall file a motion within 10 days of service of the order or ruling, requesting that the Presiding Officer forward the order or ruling to the Environmental Appeals Board for review, and stating briefly the grounds for the appeal.

(b) *Availability of interlocutory appeal.* The Presiding Officer may recommend any order or ruling for review by the Environmental Appeals Board when:

(1) The order or ruling involves an important question of law or policy concerning which there is substantial grounds for difference of opinion; and

(2) Either an immediate appeal from the order or ruling will materially advance the ultimate termination of the proceeding, or review after the final order is issued will be inadequate or ineffective.

(c) *Interlocutory review.* If the Presiding Officer has recommended review and the Environmental Appeals Board determines that interlocutory review is inappropriate, or takes no action within 30 days of the Presiding Officer's recommendation, the appeal is dismissed. When the Presiding Officer declines to recommend review of an order or ruling, it

may be reviewed by the Environmental Appeals Board only upon appeal from the initial decision, except when the Environmental Appeals Board determines, upon motion of a party and in exceptional circumstances, that to delay review would be contrary to the public interest. Such motion shall be filed within 10 days of service of an order of the Presiding Officer refusing to recommend such order or ruling for interlocutory review.

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§22.30 Appeal from or review of initial decision.

(a) *Notice of appeal and appeal brief*—(1) *Filing an appeal*—(i) *Filing deadline and who may appeal*. Within 30 days after the initial decision is served, any party may file an appeal from any adverse order or ruling of the Presiding Officer.

(ii) *Filing requirements*. Appellant must file a notice of appeal and an accompanying appellate brief with the Environmental Appeals Board as set forth in §22.5(a). One copy of any document filed with the Clerk of the Board shall also be served on the Headquarters or Regional Hearing Clerk, as appropriate. Appellant also shall serve a copy of the notice of appeal upon the Presiding Officer. Appellant shall simultaneously serve one copy of the notice and brief upon all other parties and non-party participants.

(iii) *Content*. The notice of appeal shall summarize the order or ruling, or part thereof, appealed from. The appellant's brief shall contain tables of contents and authorities (with appropriate page references), a statement of the issues presented for review, a statement of the nature of the case and the facts relevant to the issues presented for review (with specific citation or other appropriate reference to the record (e.g., by including the document name and page number)), argument on the issues presented, a short conclusion stating the precise relief sought, alternative findings of fact, and alternative conclusions regarding issues of law or discretion. If any appellant includes attachments to its notice of appeal or appellate brief, the notice of appeal or appellate brief shall contain a table that provides the title of each appended document and assigns a label identifying where it may be found in the record.

(iv) *Multiple appeals*. If a timely notice of appeal is filed by a party, any other party may file a notice of appeal and accompanying appellate brief on any issue within 20 days after the date on which the first notice of appeal was served or within the time to appeal in paragraph (a)(1)(i) of this section, whichever period ends later.

(2) *Response brief*. Within 20 days of service of notices of appeal and briefs under paragraph (a)(1) of this section, any other party or non-party participant may file with the Environmental Appeals Board an original and one copy of a response brief responding to arguments raised by the appellant, together with specific citation or other appropriate reference to the record, initial decision, and opposing brief (e.g., by including the document name and page number). Appellee shall simultaneously serve one copy of the response brief upon each party, non-party participant, and the Regional Hearing Clerk. Response briefs shall be limited to the scope of the appeal brief. If any responding party or non-party participant includes attachments to its response brief, the response brief shall contain a table that provides the title of each appended document and assigns a label identifying where it may be found in the record. Further briefs may be filed only with leave of the Environmental Appeals Board.

(3) *Length*—(i) *Briefs*. Unless otherwise ordered by the Environmental Appeals Board, appellate and response briefs may not exceed 14,000 words, and all other briefs may not exceed 7000 words. Filers may rely on the word-processing system used to determine the word count. As an alternative to this word limitation, filers may comply with a 30-page limit for appellate and response briefs, or a 15-page limit for replies. Headings, footnotes, and quotations count toward the word limitation. The table of contents, table of authorities, table of attachments (if any), statement requesting oral argument (if any), statement of compliance with the word limitation, and any attachments do not count toward the word or page-length limitation. The Environmental Appeals Board may exclude any appeal, response, or other brief that does not meet word or page-length limitations. Where a party can demonstrate a compelling and documented need to exceed such limitations, such party must seek advance leave of the Environmental Appeals Board to file a longer brief. Such requests are discouraged and will be granted only in unusual circumstances.

(ii) *Motions*. Unless otherwise ordered by the Environmental Appeals Board, motions and any responses or replies may not exceed 7000 words. Filers may rely on the word-processing system used to determine the word count. As an alternative to this word limitation, filers may comply with a 15-page limit. Headings, footnotes, and quotations count toward the word or page-length limitation. The Environmental Appeals Board may exclude any motion that does not meet word limitations. Where a party can demonstrate a compelling and documented need to exceed such limitations, such party must seek advance leave of the Environmental Appeals Board. Such requests are discouraged and will be granted only in unusual circumstances.

(b) *Review initiated by the Environmental Appeals Board*. Whenever the Environmental Appeals Board determines to review an initial decision on its own initiative, it shall issue an order notifying the parties and the Presiding Officer of its intent to review that decision. The Clerk of the Board shall serve the order upon the Regional Hearing Clerk, the Presiding Officer, and the parties within 45 days after the initial decision was served upon the parties. In that order or in a later order, the Environmental Appeals Board shall identify any issues to be briefed by the parties and establish a time schedule for filing and service of briefs.

(c) *Scope of appeal or review.* The parties' rights of appeal shall be limited to those issues raised during the course of the proceeding and by the initial decision, and to issues concerning subject matter jurisdiction. If the Environmental Appeals Board determines that issues raised, but not appealed by the parties, should be argued, it shall give the parties written notice of such determination to allow preparation of adequate argument. The Environmental Appeals Board may remand the case to the Presiding Officer for further proceedings.

(d) *Argument before the Environmental Appeals Board.* The Environmental Appeals Board may, at its discretion in response to a request or on its own initiative, order oral argument on any or all issues in a proceeding. To request oral argument, a party must include in its substantive brief a statement explaining why oral argument is necessary. The Environmental Appeals Board may, by order, establish additional procedures governing any oral argument before the Environmental Appeals Board.

(e) *Motions on appeal*—(1) *General.* All motions made during the course of an appeal shall conform to §22.16 unless otherwise provided. In advance of filing a motion, parties must attempt to ascertain whether the other party(ies) concur(s) or object(s) to the motion and must indicate in the motion the attempt made and the response obtained.

(2) *Disposition of a motion for a procedural order.* The Environmental Appeals Board may act on a motion for a procedural order at any time without awaiting a response.

(3) *Timing on motions for extension of time.* Parties must file motions for extensions of time sufficiently in advance of the due date to allow other parties to have a reasonable opportunity to respond to the request for more time and to provide the Environmental Appeals Board with a reasonable opportunity to issue an order.

(f) *Decision.* The Environmental Appeals Board shall adopt, modify, or set aside the findings of fact and conclusions of law or discretion contained in the decision or order being reviewed, and shall set forth in the final order the reasons for its actions. The Environmental Appeals Board may assess a penalty that is higher or lower than the amount recommended to be assessed in the decision or order being reviewed or from the amount sought in the complaint, except that if the order being reviewed is a default order, the Environmental Appeals Board may not increase the amount of the penalty above that proposed in the complaint or in the motion for default, whichever is less. The Environmental Appeals Board may adopt, modify or set aside any recommended compliance or corrective action order or Permit Action. The Environmental Appeals Board may remand the case to the Presiding Officer for further action.

[64 FR 40176, July 23, 1999, as amended at 68 FR 2204, Jan. 16, 2003; 69 FR 77639, Dec. 28, 2004; 79 FR 65901, Nov. 6, 2014; 80 FR 13252, Mar. 13, 2015; 82 FR 2235, Jan. 9, 2017]

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Subpart G—Final Order

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§22.31 Final order.

(a) *Effect of final order.* A final order constitutes the final Agency action in a proceeding. The final order shall not in any case affect the right of the Agency or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. The final order shall resolve only those causes of action alleged in the complaint, or for proceedings commenced pursuant to §22.13(b), alleged in the consent agreement. The final order does not waive, extinguish or otherwise affect respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of the Act and regulations promulgated thereunder.

(b) *Effective date.* A final order is effective upon filing. Where an initial decision becomes a final order pursuant to §22.27(c), the final order is effective 45 days after the initial decision is served on the parties.

(c) *Payment of a civil penalty.* The respondent shall pay the full amount of any civil penalty assessed in the final order within 30 days after the effective date of the final order unless otherwise ordered. Payment shall be made by sending a cashier's check or certified check to the payee specified in the complaint, unless otherwise instructed by the complainant. The check shall note the case title and docket number. Respondent shall serve copies of the check or other instrument of payment on the Regional Hearing Clerk and on complainant. Collection of interest on overdue payments shall be in accordance with the Debt Collection Act, 31 U.S.C. 3717.

(d) *Other relief.* Any final order requiring compliance or corrective action, or a Permit Action, shall become effective and enforceable without further proceedings on the effective date of the final order unless otherwise ordered.

(e) *Final orders to Federal agencies on appeal.* (1) A final order of the Environmental Appeals Board issued pursuant to §22.30 to a department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States shall become effective 30 days after its service upon the

parties unless the head of the affected department, agency, or instrumentality requests a conference with the Administrator in writing and serves a copy of the request on the parties of record within 30 days of service of the final order. If a timely request is made, a decision by the Administrator shall become the final order.

(2) A motion for reconsideration pursuant to §22.32 shall not toll the 30-day period described in paragraph (e)(1) of this section unless specifically so ordered by the Environmental Appeals Board.

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§22.32 Motion to reconsider a final order.

Motions to reconsider a final order issued pursuant to §22.30 shall be filed within 10 days after service of the final order. Motions must set forth the matters claimed to have been erroneously decided and the nature of the alleged errors. Motions for reconsideration under this provision shall be directed to, and decided by, the Environmental Appeals Board. Motions for reconsideration directed to the Administrator, rather than to the Environmental Appeals Board, will not be considered, except in cases that the Environmental Appeals Board has referred to the Administrator pursuant to §22.4(a) and in which the Administrator has issued the final order. A motion for reconsideration shall not stay the effective date of the final order unless so ordered by the Environmental Appeals Board.

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Subpart H—Supplemental Rules

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§22.33 [Reserved]

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§22.34 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under the Clean Air Act.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings to assess a civil penalty conducted under sections 113(d), 205(c), 211(d), and 213(d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7413(d), 7524(c), 7545(d), and 7547(d)), and a determination of nonconforming engines, vehicles or equipment under sections 207(c) and 213(d) of the Clean Air Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7541(c) and 7547(d)). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Issuance of notice.* Prior to the issuance of a final order assessing a civil penalty or a final determination of nonconforming engines, vehicles or equipment, the person to whom the order or determination is to be issued shall be given written notice of the proposed issuance of the order or determination. Service of a complaint or a consent agreement and final order pursuant to §22.13 satisfies these notice requirements.

[81 FR 73971, Oct. 25, 2016]

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§22.35 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings to assess a civil penalty conducted under section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act as amended (7 U.S.C. 136l(a)). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Venue.* The prehearing conference and the hearing shall be held in the county, parish, or incorporated city of the residence of the person charged, unless otherwise agreed in writing by all parties. For a person whose residence is outside the United States and outside any territory or possession of the United States, the prehearing conference and the hearing shall be held at the EPA office listed at 40 CFR 1.7 that is closest to either the person's primary place of business within the United States, or the primary place of business of the person's U.S. agent, unless otherwise agreed by all parties.

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§22.36 [Reserved]

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§22.37 Supplemental rules governing administrative proceedings under the Solid Waste Disposal Act.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings under sections 3005(d) and (e), 3008, 9003 and 9006 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6925(d) and (e), 6928, 6991b and 6991e) (“SWDA”). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Corrective action and compliance orders.* A complaint may contain a compliance order issued under section 3008(a) or section 9006(a), or a corrective action order issued under section 3008(h) or section 9003(h)(4) of the SWDA. Any such order shall automatically become a final order unless, no later than 30 days after the order is served, the respondent requests a hearing pursuant to §22.15.

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§22.38 Supplemental rules of practice governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under the Clean Water Act.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32 and §22.45, in administrative proceedings for the assessment of any civil penalty under section 309(g) or section 311(b)(6) of the Clean Water Act (“CWA”)(33 U.S.C. 1319(g) and 1321(b)(6)). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Consultation with States.* For proceedings pursuant to section 309(g), the complainant shall provide the State agency with the most direct authority over the matters at issue in the case an opportunity to consult with the complainant. Complainant shall notify the State agency within 30 days following proof of service of the complaint on the respondent or, in the case of a proceeding proposed to be commenced pursuant to §22.13(b), no less than 40 days before the issuance of an order assessing a civil penalty.

(c) *Administrative procedure and judicial review.* Action of the Administrator for which review could have been obtained under section 509(b)(1) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. 1369(b)(1), shall not be subject to review in an administrative proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty under section 309(g) or section 311(b)(6).

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§22.39 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under section 109 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.10 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings for the assessment of any civil penalty under section 109 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (42 U.S.C. 9609). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Judicial review.* Any person who requested a hearing with respect to a Class II civil penalty under section 109(b) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9609(b), and who is the recipient of a final order assessing a civil penalty may file a petition for judicial review of such order with the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia or for any other circuit in which such person resides or transacts business. Any person who requested a hearing with respect to a Class I civil penalty under section 109(a)(4) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9609(a)(4), and who is the recipient of a final order assessing the civil penalty may file a petition for judicial review of such order with the appropriate district court of the United States. All petitions must be filed within 30 days of the date the order making the assessment was served on the parties.

(c) *Payment of civil penalty assessed.* Payment of civil penalties assessed in the final order shall be made by forwarding a cashier's check, payable to the “EPA, Hazardous Substances Superfund,” in the amount assessed, and noting the case title and docket number, to the appropriate regional Superfund Lockbox Depository.

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§22.40 [Reserved]

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§22.41 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties under Title II of the Toxic Substance Control Act, enacted as section 2 of the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA).

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings to assess a civil penalty conducted under section 207 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (“TSCA”) (15 U.S.C. 2647). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Collection of civil penalty.* Any civil penalty collected under TSCA section 207 shall be used by the local educational agency for purposes of complying with Title II of TSCA. Any portion of a civil penalty remaining unspent after a local educational

agency achieves compliance shall be deposited into the Asbestos Trust Fund established under section 5 of AHERA.

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§22.42 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties for violations of compliance orders issued to owners or operators of public water systems under part B of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings to assess a civil penalty under section 1414(g)(3)(B) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300g-3(g)(3)(B). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Choice of forum.* A complaint which specifies that subpart I of this part applies shall also state that respondent has a right to elect a hearing on the record in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 554, and that respondent waives this right unless it requests in its answer a hearing on the record in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 554. Upon such request, the Regional Hearing Clerk shall recaption the documents in the record as necessary, and notify the parties of the changes.

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§22.43 Supplemental rules governing the administrative assessment of civil penalties against a federal agency under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings to assess a civil penalty against a federal agency under section 1447(b) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-6(b). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Effective date of final penalty order.* Any penalty order issued pursuant to this section and section 1447(b) of the Safe Drinking Water Act shall become effective 30 days after it has been served on the parties.

(c) *Public notice of final penalty order.* Upon the issuance of a final penalty order under this section, the Administrator shall provide public notice of the order by publication, and by providing notice to any person who requests such notice. The notice shall include:

- (1) The docket number of the order;
- (2) The address and phone number of the Regional Hearing Clerk from whom a copy of the order may be obtained;
- (3) The location of the facility where violations were found;
- (4) A description of the violations;
- (5) The penalty that was assessed; and
- (6) A notice that any interested person may, within 30 days of the date the order becomes final, obtain judicial review of the penalty order pursuant to section 1447(b) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and instruction that persons seeking judicial review shall provide copies of any appeal to the persons described in 40 CFR 135.11(a).

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§22.44 Supplemental rules of practice governing the termination of permits under section 402(a) of the Clean Water Act or under section 3008(a)(3) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

(a) *Scope of this subpart.* The supplemental rules of practice in this subpart shall also apply in conjunction with the Consolidated Rules of Practice in this part and with the administrative proceedings for the termination of permits under section 402(a) of the Clean Water Act or under section 3008(a)(3) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Notwithstanding the Consolidated Rules of Practice, these supplemental rules shall govern with respect to the termination of such permits.

(b) In any proceeding to terminate a permit for cause under §122.64 or §270.43 of this chapter during the term of the permit:

- (1) The complaint shall, in addition to the requirements of §22.14(b), contain any additional information specified in §124.8 of this chapter;
- (2) The Director (as defined in §124.2 of this chapter) shall provide public notice of the complaint in accordance with §124.10 of this chapter, and allow for public comment in accordance with §124.11 of this chapter; and

(3) The Presiding Officer shall admit into evidence the contents of the Administrative Record described in §124.9 of this chapter, and any public comments received.

[65 FR 30904, May 15, 2000]

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§22.45 Supplemental rules governing public notice and comment in proceedings under sections 309(g) and 311(b)(6)(B)(ii) of the Clean Water Act and section 1423(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

(a) *Scope.* This section shall apply, in conjunction with §§22.1 through 22.32, in administrative proceedings for the assessment of any civil penalty under sections 309(g) and 311(b)(6)(B)(ii) of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1319(g) and 1321(b)(6)(B)(ii)), and under section 1423(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300h-2(c)). Where inconsistencies exist between this section and §§22.1 through 22.32, this section shall apply.

(b) *Public notice*—(1) *General.* Complainant shall notify the public before assessing a civil penalty. Such notice shall be provided within 30 days following proof of service of the complaint on the respondent or, in the case of a proceeding proposed to be commenced pursuant to §22.13(b), no less than 40 days before the issuance of an order assessing a civil penalty. The notice period begins upon first publication of notice.

(2) *Type and content of public notice.* The complainant shall provide public notice of the complaint (or the proposed consent agreement if §22.13(b) is applicable) by a method reasonably calculated to provide notice, and shall also provide notice directly to any person who requests such notice. The notice shall include:

(i) The docket number of the proceeding;

(ii) The name and address of the complainant and respondent, and the person from whom information on the proceeding may be obtained, and the address of the Regional Hearing Clerk to whom appropriate comments shall be directed;

(iii) The location of the site or facility from which the violations are alleged, and any applicable permit number;

(iv) A description of the violation alleged and the relief sought; and

(v) A notice that persons shall submit comments to the Regional Hearing Clerk, and the deadline for such submissions.

(c) *Comment by a person who is not a party.* The following provisions apply in regard to comment by a person not a party to a proceeding:

(1) *Participation in proceeding.* (i) Any person wishing to participate in the proceedings must notify the Regional Hearing Clerk in writing within the public notice period under paragraph (b)(1) of this section. The person must provide his name, complete mailing address, and state that he wishes to participate in the proceeding.

(ii) The Presiding Officer shall provide notice of any hearing on the merits to any person who has met the requirements of paragraph (c)(1)(i) of this section at least 20 days prior to the scheduled hearing.

(iii) A commenter may present written comments for the record at any time prior to the close of the record.

(iv) A commenter wishing to present evidence at a hearing on the merits shall notify, in writing, the Presiding Officer and the parties of its intent at least 10 days prior to the scheduled hearing. This notice must include a copy of any document to be introduced, a description of the evidence to be presented, and the identity of any witness (and qualifications if an expert), and the subject matter of the testimony.

(v) In any hearing on the merits, a commenter may present evidence, including direct testimony subject to cross examination by the parties.

(vi) The Presiding Officer shall have the discretion to establish the extent of commenter participation in any other scheduled activity.

(2) *Limitations.* A commenter may not cross-examine any witness in any hearing and shall not be subject to or participate in any discovery or prehearing exchange.

(3) *Quick resolution and settlement.* No proceeding subject to the public notice and comment provisions of paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section may be resolved or settled under §22.18, or commenced under §22.13(b), until 10 days after the close of the comment period provided in paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(4) *Petition to set aside a consent agreement and proposed final order.* (i) Complainant shall provide to each commenter, by certified mail, return receipt requested, but not to the Regional Hearing Clerk or Presiding Officer, a copy of any consent agreement between the parties and the proposed final order.

(ii) Within 30 days of receipt of the consent agreement and proposed final order a commenter may petition the Regional Administrator (or, for cases commenced at EPA Headquarters, the Environmental Appeals Board), to set aside the consent agreement and proposed final order on the basis that material evidence was not considered. Copies of the petition shall be served on the parties, but shall not be sent to the Regional Hearing Clerk or the Presiding Officer.

(iii) Within 15 days of receipt of a petition, the complainant may, with notice to the Regional Administrator or Environmental Appeals Board and to the commenter, withdraw the consent agreement and proposed final order to consider the matters raised in the petition. If the complainant does not give notice of withdrawal within 15 days of receipt of the petition, the Regional Administrator or Environmental Appeals Board shall assign a Petition Officer to consider and rule on the petition. The Petition Officer shall be another Presiding Officer, not otherwise involved in the case. Notice of this assignment shall be sent to the parties, and to the Presiding Officer.

(iv) Within 30 days of assignment of the Petition Officer, the complainant shall present to the Petition Officer a copy of the complaint and a written response to the petition. A copy of the response shall be provided to the parties and to the commenter, but not to the Regional Hearing Clerk or Presiding Officer.

(v) The Petition Officer shall review the petition, and complainant's response, and shall file with the Regional Hearing Clerk, with copies to the parties, the commenter, and the Presiding Officer, written findings as to:

- (A) The extent to which the petition states an issue relevant and material to the issuance of the proposed final order;
- (B) Whether complainant adequately considered and responded to the petition; and
- (C) Whether a resolution of the proceeding by the parties is appropriate without a hearing.

(vi) Upon a finding by the Petition Officer that a hearing is appropriate, the Presiding Officer shall order that the consent agreement and proposed final order be set aside and shall establish a schedule for a hearing.

(vii) Upon a finding by the Petition Officer that a resolution of the proceeding without a hearing is appropriate, the Petition Officer shall issue an order denying the petition and stating reasons for the denial. The Petition Officer shall:

- (A) File the order with the Regional Hearing Clerk;
- (B) Serve copies of the order on the parties and the commenter; and
- (C) Provide public notice of the order.

(viii) Upon a finding by the Petition Officer that a resolution of the proceeding without a hearing is appropriate, the Regional Administrator may issue the proposed final order, which shall become final 30 days after both the order denying the petition and a properly signed consent agreement are filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, unless further petition for review is filed by a notice of appeal in the appropriate United States District Court, with coincident notice by certified mail to the Administrator and the Attorney General. Written notice of appeal also shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, and sent to the Presiding Officer and the parties.

(ix) If judicial review of the final order is denied, the final order shall become effective 30 days after such denial has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

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§§22.46-22.49 [Reserved]

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Subpart I—Administrative Proceedings Not Governed by Section 554 of the Administrative Procedure Act

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§22.50 Scope of this subpart.

(a) *Scope.* This subpart applies to all adjudicatory proceedings for:

(1) The assessment of a penalty under sections 309(g)(2)(A) and 311(b)(6)(B)(i) of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1319(g)(2)(A) and 1321(b)(6)(B)(i)).

(2) The assessment of a penalty under sections 1414(g)(3)(B) and 1423(c) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g-3(g)(3)(B) and 300h-2(c)), except where a respondent in a proceeding under section 1414(g)(3)(B) requests in its answer a hearing on the record in accordance with section 554 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 554.

(b) *Relationship to other provisions.* Sections 22.1 through 22.45 apply to proceedings under this subpart, except for the following provisions which do not apply: §§22.11, 22.16(c), 22.21(a), and 22.29. Where inconsistencies exist between this subpart and subparts A through G of this part, this subpart shall apply. Where inconsistencies exist between this subpart and subpart H of this part, subpart H shall apply.

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§22.51 Presiding Officer.

The Presiding Officer shall be a Regional Judicial Officer. The Presiding Officer shall conduct the hearing, and rule on all motions until an initial decision has become final or has been appealed.

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§22.52 Information exchange and discovery.

Respondent's information exchange pursuant to §22.19(a) shall include information on any economic benefit resulting from any activity or failure to act which is alleged in the administrative complaint to be a violation of applicable law, including its gross revenues, delayed or avoided costs. Discovery under §22.19(e) shall not be authorized, except for discovery of information concerning respondent's economic benefit from alleged violations and information concerning respondent's ability to pay a penalty.

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Need assistance?

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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cm 2/1/2018

I hereby certify that on the date noted below, I hand delivered to the Regional Hearing Clerk, EPA Region III, the original Administrative Complaint and Notice of Opportunity to Request a Hearing and a copy of the same. In addition, I caused a true and correct copy of the Administrative Complaint and Notice of Opportunity to Request a Hearing to be served as follows:

Certified Mail,
Return Receipt
Requested:

Donald Dolittle
President
Wesco Construction Co.
902 Saginaw Road
West Grove, PA 19422

2/1/18
Date

Philip Yeary
Philip Yeary
Senior Assistant
Regional Counsel

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