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has a special need for a prompt decision. A request for expedited action should include an explanation of why expedited action is needed, including a statement of all relevant facts and circumstances, such as bidding deadlines or other circumstances beyond the control of the applicant, that require the applicant to act in less than ninety days and that have a significant impact on the applicant's export trade.

(2) The Secretary shall advise the applicant within ten days after the application is deemed submitted whether it will receive expedited action. The Secretary may grant the request in whole or in part and process the remainder of the application through the normal procedures. Expedited action may be granted only if the Attorney General concurs.

(b) *Time period.* The Secretary shall determine whether to issue a certificate to the applicant within forty-five days after the Secretary granted the request for expedited action, or within a longer period if agreed to by the applicant (excluding any suspension pursuant to § 325.3(f) of the time period for making a determination). The Secretary may not issue a certificate until thirty days after the summary of the application is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) *Concurrence of the Attorney General.* (1) Not later than ten working days before the date on which a determination on the application is due, the Secretary shall deliver a proposed certificate to the Attorney General for discussion and comment. If the Attorney General does not agree that the proposed certificate may be issued, he shall, not later than five working days before the date on which a determination on the application is due, so advise the Secretary and state the reasons for the disagreement. The Secretary, with the concurrence of the Attorney General, may revise the proposed certificate to resolve the objections and problems raised by the Attorney General, or deny the application.

(2) If the Attorney General receives the proposed certificate by the date specified in the preceding paragraph and does not respond within the time period specified in that paragraph, he

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shall be deemed to concur in the proposed certificate.

(Information collection requirements in paragraph (a)(1) approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0625-0125)

§ 325.9 Reconsidering an application that has been denied.

(a) If the Secretary determines to deny an application in whole or in part, he shall notify the applicant in writing of his decision and the reasons for his determination.

(b) Within thirty days after receiving a notice of denial, the applicant may request the Secretary to reconsider his determination.

(1) The request for reconsideration shall include a written statement setting forth the reasons why the applicant believes the decision should be reconsidered, and any additional information that the applicant considers relevant.

(2) Upon the request of the applicant, the Secretary and the Attorney General will meet informally with the applicant and/or his representative to discuss the applicant's reasons why the determination on the application should be changed.

(c) The Secretary shall consult with the Attorney General with regard to reconsidering an application. The Secretary may modify his original determination only if the Attorney General concurs.

(d) The Secretary shall notify the applicant in writing of his final determination after reconsideration and of his reasons for the determination within thirty days after the request for reconsideration has been received.

§ 325.10 Modifying or revoking a certificate.

(a) *Action subject to modification or revocation.* The Secretary shall revoke a certificate, in whole or in part, or modify it, as the Secretary or the Attorney General considers necessary, if:

(1) The export conduct of a person or entity protected by the certificate no longer complies with the requirements set forth in § 325.4(b);

(2) A person or entity protected by the certificate fails to comply with a

request for information under paragraph (b) of this section; or

(3) The certificate holder fails to file a complete annual report.

(b) *Request for information.* If the Secretary or the Attorney General has reason to believe that the export trade, export trade activities, or methods of operation of a person or entity protected by a certificate no longer comply with the requirements set forth in §325.4(b), the Secretary shall request any information that he or the Attorney General considers to be necessary to resolve the matter.

(c) *Proceedings for the revocation or modification of a certificate*—(1) *Notification letter.* If, after reviewing the relevant information in their possession, it appears to the Secretary or the Attorney General that a certificate should be revoked or modified for any of the reasons set forth in paragraph (a) above, the Secretary shall so notify the certificate holder in writing. The notification shall be sent by registered or certified mail to the address specified in the certificate. The notification shall include a detailed statement of the facts, conduct, or circumstances which may warrant the revocation or modification of the certificate.

(2) *Answer.* The certificate holder shall respond to the notification letter within thirty days after receiving it, unless the Secretary, in his discretion, grants a thirty day extension for good cause shown. The certificate holder shall respond specifically to the statement included with the notification letter and state in detail why the facts, conduct or circumstances described in the notification letter are not true, or if they are true, why they do not warrant the revoking or modifying of the certificate. If the certificate holder does not respond within the specified period, it will be considered an admission of the statements contained in the notification letter.

(3) *Resolution of factual disputes.* Where material facts are in dispute, the Secretary and the Attorney General shall, upon request, meet informally with the certificate holder. The Secretary or the Attorney General may require the certificate holder to provide any documents or information that are necessary to support its con-

tentions. After reviewing the statements of the certificate holder and the documents or information that the certificate holder has submitted, and upon considering other relevant documents or information in his possession, the Secretary shall make proposed findings of the factual matters in dispute. The Attorney General is not bound by the proposed findings.

(4) *Final determination.* The Secretary and the Attorney General shall review the notification letter and the certificate holder's answer to it, the proposed factual findings made under paragraph (c)(3) of this section, and any other relevant documents or information in their possession. If, after review, the Secretary or the Attorney General determines that the export conduct of a person or entity protected by the certificate no longer complies with the standards set forth in §325.4(b), the Secretary shall revoke or modify the certificate as appropriate. If the Secretary or the Attorney General determines that the certificate holder has failed to comply with the request for information under paragraph (b) of this section, or has failed to file a complete annual report, and that the failure to comply or file should result in revocation or modification, the Secretary shall revoke or modify the certificate as appropriate. The determination will be final and will be issued to the certificate holder in writing. The notice to the certificate holder shall include a statement of the circumstances underlying and the reasons in support of the determination. If the Secretary determines to revoke or modify the certificate, the decision shall specify the effective date of the revocation or modification; this date must be at least thirty days but not more than ninety days after the Secretary notifies the certificate holder of his determination. The Secretary shall publish notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER of a revocation or modification or a decision not to revoke or modify.

(d) *Investigative information.* In proceedings under this section, the Attorney General shall make available to the Secretary any information that has

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been obtained in response to Civil Investigative Demands issued under section 304(b)(3) of the Act. Unless prohibited by law, the Attorney General and the Secretary shall also make available to each other any other information which each is relying upon under these proceedings.

§ 325.11 Judicial review.

(a) *Review of certain determinations.* (1) Any person aggrieved by a final determination of the Secretary under § 325.5, § 325.7, § 325.9, or § 325.10 of these regulations may, within thirty days of the determination, bring an action in an appropriate district court of the United States to set aside the determination on the ground that it is erroneous. If a certificate is denied, the applicant may bring suit within thirty days after the notice of denial is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, or, if the applicant seeks reconsideration, within thirty days after the Secretary publishes in the FEDERAL REGISTER notice of his determination after reconsideration.

(b) For purposes of judicial review, determinations of the Secretary are final when notice is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) *Record for judicial review.* For purposes of judicial review, the record shall include all information presented to or obtained by the Secretary which had a bearing on the determination, the determination itself, the supporting statement setting forth the reasons for the determination, and the Attorney General's response to the Secretary indicating concurrence or nonconcurrence.

(d) *Limitation of judicial review.* Except as provided in paragraph (a) of this section, no agency action taken under the Act shall be subject to judicial review.

§ 325.12 Returning the applicant's documents.

(a) Upon the denial or withdrawal of an application for a certificate in its entirety, the applicant may request the return of all copies of the documents submitted by the applicant in connection with the application to the Department of Commerce or the Department of Justice. The applicant shall submit this request in writing to both

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the Secretary and the Attorney General.

(b) The Secretary and the Attorney General shall return the documents to the applicant within thirty days after they receive the applicant's request.

§ 325.13 Nonadmissibility in evidence.

If the Secretary denies, in whole or in part, an application for a certificate or for an amendment to a certificate, or revokes or amends a certificate, neither the negative determination nor the statement of reasons therefor shall be admissible in evidence in any administrative or judicial proceeding in support of any claim under the anti-trust laws.

§ 325.14 Submitting reports.

(a) Not later than each anniversary of a certificate's effective date, the Secretary shall notify the certificate holder of the information to be included in the annual report. This report shall contain any changes relevant to the matters specified in the certificate, an update of the information contained in the application brought current to the anniversary date, and any other information the Secretary considers appropriate, after consultation with the Attorney General.

(b) Not later than forty-five days after each anniversary of a certificate's effective date, a certificate holder shall submit its annual report to the Secretary. The Secretary shall deliver a copy of the annual report to the Attorney General.

(c) Failure to submit a complete annual report may be the basis for modification or revocation of a certificate.

§ 325.15 Relinquishing a certificate.

A certificate holder may relinquish a certificate at any time through written notice to the Secretary. The certificate will cease to be effective on the day the Secretary receives the notice.

§ 325.16 Protecting confidentiality of information.

(a) Any information that is submitted by any person under the Act is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).