

§ 900.221

25 CFR Ch. V (4-1-06 Edition)

§ 900.221 What happens next?

(a) If the parties do not agree on a settlement, the awarding official will issue a written decision on the claim.

(b) The awarding official shall always give a copy of the decision to the Indian tribe or tribal organization by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by any other method which provides a receipt.

§ 900.222 What goes into a decision?

A decision shall:

(a) Describe the claim or dispute;

(b) Refer to the relevant terms of the contract;

(c) Set out the factual areas of agreement and disagreement;

(d) Set out the actual decision, based on the facts, and outline the reasoning which supports the decision; and

(e) Contain the following language:

This is a final decision. You may appeal this decision to the Interior Board of Contract Appeals (IBCA), U.S. Department of the Interior, 801 North Quincy Street, Arlington, VA 22203. If you decide to appeal, you shall, within 90 days from the date you receive this decision, mail or otherwise furnish written notice to the IBCA and provide a copy to the individual from whose decision the appeal is taken. The notice shall indicate that an appeal is intended, and refer to the decision and contract number. Instead of appealing to the IBCA, you may bring an action in the U.S. Court of Federal Claims or in the United States District Court within 12 months of the date you receive this notice.

§ 900.223 When does an Indian tribe or tribal organization get the decision?

(a) If the claim is for more than \$100,000, the awarding official shall issue the decision within 60 days of the day he or she receives the claim. If the awarding official cannot issue a decision that quickly, he or she shall tell you when the decision will be issued.

(b) If the claim is for \$100,000 or less, and you want a decision within 60 days, you shall advise the awarding official in writing that you want a decision within that period. If you advise the awarding official in writing that you do want a decision within 60 days, the awarding official shall issue the decision within 60 days of the day he or she receives your written notice.

(c) If your claim is for \$100,000 or less and you do not advise the awarding official that you want a decision within 60 days, or if your claim exceeds \$100,000 and the awarding official has notified you of the time within which a decision will be issued, the awarding official shall issue a decision within a reasonable time. What is "reasonable" depends upon the size and complexity of your claim, and upon the adequacy of the information you have given to the awarding official in support of your claim.

§ 900.224 What happens if the decision does not come within that time?

If the awarding official does not issue a decision within the time required under § 900.223, the Indian tribe or tribal organization may treat the delay as though the awarding official has denied the claim, and proceed according to § 900.222(e).

§ 900.225 Does an Indian tribe or tribal organization get paid immediately if the awarding official decides in its favor?

Yes. Once the awarding official decides that money should be paid under the contract, the amount due, minus any portion already paid, should be paid as promptly as possible, without waiting for either party to file an appeal. Any payment which is made under this subsection will not affect any other rights either party might have. In addition, it will not create a binding legal precedent as to any future payments.

§ 900.226 What rules govern appeals of cost disallowances?

In any appeal involving a disallowance of costs, the Board of Contract Appeals will give due consideration to the factual circumstances giving rise to the disallowed costs, and shall seek to determine a fair result without rigid adherence to strict accounting principles. The determination of allowability shall assure fair compensation for the work or service performed, using cost and accounting data as guides, but not rigid measures, for ascertaining fair compensation.