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heard only at the discretion of the Commission.

§ 1502.36 Official transcript.

(a) The presiding officer will arrange for a verbatim stenographic transcript of oral testimony and for necessary copies of the transcript.

(b) One copy of the transcript will be placed on public display in the Office of the Secretary upon receipt.

(c) Copies of the transcript may be obtained by application to the official reporter and payment of costs thereof.

(d) Witnesses, participants, and counsel have 30 days from the time the transcript becomes available to propose corrections in the transcript of oral testimony. Corrections are permitted only for transcription errors. The presiding officer shall promptly order justified corrections.

§ 1502.37 Motions.

(a) Except for a motion made in the course of an oral hearing before the presiding officer, a motion on any matter relating to the proceeding shall be filed under § 1502.23 and must include a draft order.

(b) A response may be filed within 10 days of service of a motion. The time may be shortened or extended by the presiding officer for good cause shown.

(c) The moving party has no right to reply, except as permitted by the presiding officer.

(d) The presiding officer shall rule upon the motion and may certify that ruling to the Commission for interlocutory review.

Subpart F—Administrative Record

§ 1502.38 Administrative record of a hearing.

(a) The record of a hearing consists of—

(1) The regulation or notice of opportunity for hearing that gave rise to the hearing;

(2) All objections and requests for hearing filed with the Office of the Secretary under §§ 1502.5 and 1502.6;

(3) The notice of hearing published under § 1502.13;

(4) All notices of participation filed under § 1502.16;

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(5) All FEDERAL REGISTER notices pertinent to the proceeding;

(6) All submissions filed under § 1502.24, e.g., the submissions required by § 1502.25, all other documentary evidence and written testimony, pleadings, statements of position, briefs, and other similar documents;

(7) The transcript, written order, and all other documents relating to the prehearing conference, prepared under § 1502.30;

(8) All documents relating to any motion for summary decision under § 1502.31;

(9) All documents of which official notice is taken under § 1502.33;

(10) All pleadings filed under § 1502.34;

(11) All documents relating to any interlocutory appeal under § 1502.35;

(12) All transcripts prepared under § 1502.36; and

(13) Any other document relating to the hearing and filed with the Office of the Secretary by the presiding officer or any participant.

(b) The record of the administrative proceeding is closed—

(1) With respect to the taking of evidence, when specified by the presiding officer; and

(2) With respect to pleadings, at the time specified in § 1502.34(a) for the filing of briefs.

(c) The presiding officer may reopen the record to receive further evidence at any time before the filing of the initial decision.

§ 1502.39 Examination of record.

Except as provided in § 1502.3, documents in the record will be publicly available. Documents available for examination or copying will be placed on public display in the Office of the Secretary promptly upon receipt in that office.

Subpart G—Initial and Final Decision

§ 1502.40 Initial decision.

(a) The presiding officer shall prepare and file an initial decision as soon as practicable after the filing of briefs and oral argument.

(b) The initial decision shall contain—

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(1) Findings of fact based upon relevant, material, and reliable evidence of record;

(2) Conclusions of law;

(3) A discussion of the reasons for the findings and conclusions, including a discussion of the significant contentions made by any participant;

(4) Citations to the record supporting the findings and conclusions;

(5) An appropriate regulation supported by substantial evidence of record and based upon the findings of fact and conclusions of law (unless the initial decision is to not issue a regulation);

(6) An effective date for the regulation (if any), together with an explanation of why the effective date is appropriate; and

(7) The periods of time for filing exceptions to the initial decision with the Office of the Secretary and for filing replies to such exceptions, in accordance with § 1502.41(a)-(c).

(c) The initial decision must refrain from disclosing specific details of trade secrets and privileged or confidential commercial or financial information, except as specifically authorized in a protective order issued by the presiding officer.

(d) The initial decision is to be filed with the Office of the Secretary and served upon all participants. Once the initial decision is filed with the Office of the Secretary, the presiding officer has no further jurisdiction over the matter, and any motions or requests filed with the Office of the Secretary will be decided by the Commission.

(e) The initial decision becomes the final decision of the Commission by operation of law unless a participant files exceptions with the Office of the Secretary under § 1502.41(a) or the Commission files a notice of review under § 1502.41(f).

(f) Notice that an initial decision has become the decision of the Commission without appeal to or review by the Commission will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. The Commission also may publish the decision when it is of widespread interest.

§ 1502.41 Appeal from or review of initial decision.

(a) A participant may appeal an initial decision to the Commission by filing exceptions with the Office of the Secretary, and serving them on the other participants within the period specified in the initial decision. The period for appeal to the Commission may not exceed 30 days, unless extended by the Commission under paragraph (d) of this section.

(b) Exceptions must specifically identify alleged errors in the findings of fact or conclusions of law in the initial decision, and provide supporting citations to the record. Oral argument before the Commission may be requested in the exceptions.

(c) Any reply to the exceptions shall be filed and served within the period specified in the initial decision. The period may not exceed 30 days after the end of the period (including any extensions) for filing exceptions, unless extended by the Commission under paragraph (d) of this section.

(d) The Commission may extend the time for filing exceptions or replies to exceptions for good cause shown.

(e) If the Commission decides to hear oral argument, the participants will be informed of the date, time, and place of the argument, the amount of time allotted to each participant, and the issues to be addressed.

(f) Within 10 days following the expiration of the time for filing exceptions (including any extensions), the Commission may file with the Office of the Secretary, and serve on the participants, a notice of the Commission's determination to review the initial decision. The Commission may invite the participants to file briefs or present oral argument on the matter. The time for filing briefs or presenting oral argument will be specified in that or a later notice.

§ 1502.42 Decision by Commission on appeal or review of initial decision.

(a) On appeal from or review of the initial decision, the Commission has all the powers given to the presiding officer with respect to the initial decision. On the Commission's own initiative or on motion, the Commission