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(c) Withdrawal by incumbent. When an election is not held because the incumbent disclaims any representation interest in a unit, a petition by the incumbent seeking an election involving the same unit or a subdivision of the same unit will not be considered timely if filed within six (6) months of cancellation of the election.

§ 2422.15 Duty to furnish information and cooperate.

- (a) Relevant information. After a petition is filed, all parties must, upon request of the Regional Director, furnish the Regional Director and serve all parties affected by issues raised in the petition with information concerning parties, issues, and agreements raised in or affected by the petition.
- (b) Inclusions and exclusions. After a petition seeking an election is filed, the Regional Director may direct the agency or activity to furnish the Regional Director and all parties affected by issues raised in the petition with a current alphabetized list of employees and job classifications included in and/or excluded from the existing or claimed unit affected by issues raised in the petition.
- (c) Cooperation. All parties are required to cooperate in every aspect of the representation process. This obligation includes cooperating fully with the Regional Director, submitting all required and requested information, and participating in prehearing conferences and hearings. The failure to cooperate in the representation process may result in the Regional Director taking appropriate action, including dismissal of the petition or denial of intervention.

§ 2422.16 Election agreements or directed elections.

- (a) Election agreements. Parties are encouraged to enter into election agreements.
- (b) Regional Director directed election. If the parties are unable to agree on procedural matters, specifically, the eligibility period, method of election, dates, hours, or locations of the election, the Regional Director will decide election procedures and issue a Direction of Election, without prejudice to the rights of a party to file objections

- to the procedural conduct of the elec-
- (c) Opportunity for a hearing. Before directing an election, the Regional Director shall provide affected parties an opportunity for a hearing on other than procedural matters, and thereafter may:
 - (1) Issue a Decision and Order; or
- (2) If there are no questions regarding unit appropriateness, issue a Direction of Election without a Decision and Order.
- (d) Challenges or objections to a directed election. A Direction of Election issued under this section will be issued without prejudice to the right of a party to file a challenge to the eligibility of any person participating in the election and/or objections to the election.

§ 2422.17 Notice of hearing and prehearing conference.

- (a) *Purpose of notice of a hearing*. The Regional Director may issue a notice of hearing involving any issues raised in the petition.
- (b) Contents. The notice of hearing will advise affected parties about the hearing. The Regional Director will also notify affected parties of the issues raised in the petition and establish a date for the prehearing conference.
- (c) Prehearing conference. A prehearing conference will be conducted by the Hearing Officer, either by meeting or teleconference. All parties must participate in a prehearing conference and be prepared to fully discuss, narrow and resolve the issues set forth in the notification of the prehearing conference.
- (d) No interlocutory appeal of hearing determination. A Regional Director's determination of whether to issue a notice of hearing is not appealable to the Authority.

§2422.18 Hearing procedures.

- (a) Purpose of a hearing. Representation hearings are considered investigatory and not adversarial. The purpose of the hearing is to develop a full and complete record of relevant and material facts.
- (b) Conduct of hearing. Hearings will be open to the public unless otherwise