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From: norstad kassandra [mailto:thekernriver@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2006 10:49 PM

To: AB93Comments; AB94Comments

Subject: RE: Proposed rule changes on claims examination

John Doll

Commissioner for Patents

Dear Commissioner Doll,

I am an independent inventor. My funds come from savings. I have a very limited budget for development and marketing of my invention. All of my patent costs come out of my limited budget.

I understand that the proposed rule changes on claims examination will drastically increase my costs for obtaining a patent, while at the same time restricting the protection I pay for.

I understand that even though I paid for twenty claims to be examined, the examiners will only examine ten claims.

I understand that the proposed rule will force me to file many additional applications all on the same day to cover my invention.

I understand that the propose rules will result in not being able to afford patents, the larger companies to whom I try to license them will know this and more apt to steal them, thus reducing my incentive to make them, and destroying the spirit of innovation and competitiveness that the patent system is supposed to Foster.

Rather than the changing the continuation rules, I recommend that you continue to increase rate of hiring of examiners and redirect the fees to training, salaries, and retention. As the examiner force increases, the number of examiners you can hire and train each year will also increase. By your own

numbers, the recent increases in examiner hiring has stabilized the time to examine applications. Continuing to hire at the present rate will inevitably drive that time down. Thank you for your consideration of my recommendations.

Sincerely,

Scott Cochran
President
Scott River Company.

Name

Independent Inventor

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