

§ 303.32

§ 303.32 Pre-payment offers.

Prior to the actual payment of an award, no employee of the United States Government, including any person purporting to act on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, is authorized by these regulations to make any promise, offer, or representation with respect to the Agency's grant of an award in exchange for information.

§ 303.33 Filing a claim.

(a) Any individual seeking an award under this regulation is required to file a claim for such an award with the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Criminal Enforcement not later than 45 days after the conviction of the person(s) involved in the prosecution in which the information was provided.

(b) The claim submission must provide, at a minimum, a summary of the information provided, the date the information was provided, and the name and title of the person to whom the information was provided.

(c) All claim submissions must be submitted to the Office of Criminal Enforcement Counsel (LE-134X), United States Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460. The claim envelope should also specify whether the information was submitted under a request for anonymity and whether such request is still in effect. All such externally identified claims shall be handled in accordance with the Agency procedures for maintaining informant confidentiality, as referenced in § 303.31 of this subpart.

PART 304—ARBITRATION PROCEDURES FOR SMALL SUPERFUND COST RECOVERY CLAIMS

Subpart A—General

- Sec.
304.10 Purpose.
304.11 Scope and applicability.
304.12 Definitions.

Subpart B—Jurisdiction of Arbitrator, Referral of Claims, and Appointment of Arbitrator

- 304.20 Jurisdiction of Arbitrator.
304.21 Referral of claims.

40 CFR Ch. I (7-1-07 Edition)

- 304.22 Appointment of Arbitrator.
304.23 Disclosure and challenge procedures.
304.24 Intervention and withdrawal.
304.25 *Ex parte* communication.

Subpart C—Hearings Before the Arbitrator

- 304.30 Filing of pleadings.
304.31 Pre-hearing conference.
304.32 Arbitral hearing.
304.33 Arbitral decision and public comment.

Subpart D—Other Provisions

- 304.40 Effect and enforcement of final decision.
304.41 Administrative fees, expenses, and Arbitrator's fee.
304.42 Miscellaneous provisions.

AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 9607(a) and 9622(h)(2), Executive Order No. 12580, 52 FR 2923 (January 29, 1987).

SOURCE: 54 FR 23179, May 30, 1989, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General

§ 304.10 Purpose.

This regulation establishes and governs procedures for the arbitration of EPA cost recovery claims arising under section 107(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. 9607(a), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-499, 100 Stat. 1613 (1986) ("CERCLA"), pursuant to the authority granted EPA by section 122(h)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9622(h)(2), and Executive Order No. 12580, 52 FR 2923 (January 29, 1987).

§ 304.11 Scope and applicability.

The procedures established by this regulation govern the arbitration of EPA claims for recovery, under section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607(a), of response costs incurred at or in connection with a facility by the United States pursuant to section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9604. The procedures are applicable when:

(a) The total past and projected response costs for the facility concerned do not exceed \$500,000, excluding interest; and

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 304.12

(b) The Administrator and one or more PRPs have submitted a joint request for arbitration pursuant to §304.21 of this part.

§ 304.12 Definitions.

Terms not defined in this section have the meaning given by section 101 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9601, or the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, 40 CFR part 300. All time deadlines in this part are specified in calendar days and shall be computed in the manner described in Rule 6(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Except when otherwise specified, the following terms are defined for purposes of this part as follows:

(a) *CERCLA* means the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. 9601, *et seq.*, as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, Pub. L. 99-499, 100 Stat. 1613 (1986).

(b) *Administrator* means the EPA Administrator or his designee.

(c) *Arbitrator* means the person appointed in accordance with §304.22 of this part and governed by the provisions of this part.

(d) *Association* means the organization offering arbitration services selected by EPA to conduct arbitrations pursuant to this part.

(e) *Claim* means the amount sought by EPA as recovery of response costs incurred and to be incurred by the United States at a facility, which does not exceed \$500,000, excluding interest.

(f) *Ex parte communication* means any communication, written or oral, relating to the merits of the arbitral proceeding, between the Arbitrator and any interested person, which was not originally filed or stated in the administrative record of the proceeding. Such communication is not *ex parte communication* if all parties to the proceeding have received prior written notice of the proposed communication and have been given the opportunity to be present and to participate therein.

(g) *Interested person* means the Administrator, any EPA employee, any party to the proceeding, any potentially responsible party associated with the facility concerned, any person who

filed written comments in the proceeding, any participant or intervenor in the proceeding, all officers, directors, employees, consultants, and agents of any party, and any attorney of record for any of the foregoing persons.

(h) *National Contingency Plan* or *NCP* means the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan, developed under section 311(c)(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251, *et seq.*, as amended, revised periodically pursuant to section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9605, and published at 40 CFR part 300.

(i) *National Panel of Environmental Arbitrators* or *Panel* means a panel of environmental arbitrators selected and maintained by the Association to arbitrate cost recovery claims under this part.

(j) *Participating PRP* is any potentially responsible party who has agreed, pursuant to §304.21 of this part, to submit one or more issues arising in an EPA claim for resolution pursuant to the procedures established by this part.

(k) *Party* means EPA and any person who has agreed, pursuant to §304.21 of this part, to submit one or more issues arising in an EPA claim for resolution pursuant to the procedures established by this part, and any person who has been granted leave to intervene pursuant to §304.24(a) of this part.

(l) *Persons* means an individual, firm, corporation, association, partnership, consortium, joint venture, commercial entity, United States Government, State, municipality, commission, political subdivision of a State, or any interstate body.

(m) *Potentially responsible party* or *PRP* means any person who may be liable pursuant to section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9607(a), for response costs incurred and to be incurred by the United States not inconsistent with NCP.

(n) *Response action* means remove, removal, remedy and remedial action, as those terms are defined by section 101 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9601, including enforcement activities related thereto.

(o) *Response costs* means all costs of removal or remedial action incurred and to be incurred by the United States