

1, 1975, will also be applicable. [Rule 156.]

§ 502.157 Written evidence.

(a) The use of written statements in lieu of oral testimony shall be resorted to where the presiding officer in his or her discretion rules that such procedure is appropriate. The statements shall be numbered in paragraphs, and each party in its rebuttal shall be required to list the paragraphs to which it objects, giving an indication of its reasons for objecting. Statistical exhibits shall contain a short commentary explaining the conclusions which the offeror draws from the data. Any portion of such testimony which is argumentative shall be excluded. Where written statements are used, copies of the statement and any rebuttal statement shall be furnished to all parties, as shall copies of exhibits. The presiding officer shall fix respective dates for the exchange of such written rebuttal statements and exhibits in advance of the hearing to enable study by the parties of such testimony. Thereafter, the parties shall endeavor to stipulate as many of the facts set forth in the written testimony as they may be able to agree upon. Oral examination of witnesses shall thereafter be confined to facts which remain in controversy, and a reading of the written statements at the hearing will be dispensed with unless the presiding officer otherwise directs.

(b) Where a formal hearing is held in a rulemaking proceeding, interested persons will be afforded an opportunity to participate through submission of relevant, material, reliable and probative written evidence properly verified, except that such evidence submitted by persons not present at the hearing will not be made a part of the record if objected to by any party on the ground that the person who submits the evidence is not present for cross-examination. [Rule 157.]

[49 FR 44369, Nov. 6, 1984; 49 FR 47394, Dec. 4, 1984]

§ 502.158 Documents containing matter not material.

Where written matter offered in evidence is embraced in a document containing other matter which is not in-

tended to be offered in evidence, the offering party shall present the original document to all parties at the hearing for their inspection, and shall offer a true copy of the matter which is to be introduced, unless the presiding officer determines that the matter is short enough to be read into the record. Opposing parties shall be afforded an opportunity to introduce in evidence, in like manner, other portions of the original document which are material and relevant. [Rule 158.]

§ 502.159 [Reserved]

§ 502.160 Records in other proceedings.

When any portion of the record before the Commission in any proceeding other than the one being heard is offered in evidence, a true copy of such portion shall be presented for the record in the form of an exhibit unless the parties represented at the hearing stipulate upon the record that such portion may be incorporated by reference. [Rule 160.]

§ 502.161 Commission's files.

Where any matter contained in a tariff, report, or other document on file with the Commission is offered in evidence, such document need not be produced or marked for identification, but the matter so offered shall be specified in its particularity, giving tariff number and page number of tariff, report, or document in such manner as to be readily identified, and may be received in evidence by reference, subject to comparison with the original document on file. [Rule 161.]

§ 502.162 Stipulations.

The parties may, by stipulation, agree upon any facts involved in the proceeding and include them in the record with the consent of the presiding officer. It is desirable that facts be thus agreed upon whenever practicable. Written stipulations shall be subscribed and shall be served upon all parties of record unless presented at the hearing or prehearing conference. A stipulation may be proposed even if not subscribed by all parties without prejudice to any nonsubscribing party's