

written interrogatories, or other discovery matters shall be taken within twenty (20) days of the date of refusal to obey or failure to comply. A private party shall advise the Commission five (5) days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays) before applying to the court of its intent to seek enforcement of such subpoenas and discovery orders.

(c) *Persons and documents located in a foreign country.* Orders of the presiding officer directed to persons or documents located in a foreign country shall become final orders of the Commission unless an appeal to the Commission is filed within ten (10) days after date of issuance of such orders or unless the Commission on its own motion reverses, modifies, or stays such rulings within twenty (20) days of their issuance. Replies to appeals may be filed within ten (10) days. No motion for leave to appeal is necessary in such instances and no orders of the presiding officer shall be effective until twenty (20) days from date of issuance unless the Commission otherwise directs. [Rule 210.]

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

Subpart M—Briefs; Requests for Findings; Decisions; Exceptions

§ 502.221 Briefs; requests for findings.

(a) The presiding officer shall fix the time and manner of filing briefs and any enlargement of time. The period of time allowed shall be the same for all parties unless the presiding officer, for good cause shown, directs otherwise.

(b) Briefs shall be served upon all parties pursuant to subpart H of this part.

(c) In investigations instituted on the Commission's own motion, the presiding officer may require the Bureau of Enforcement to file a request for findings of fact and conclusions within a reasonable time prior to the filing of briefs. Service of the request shall be in accordance with the provisions of subpart H of this part.

(d) Unless otherwise ordered by the presiding officer, opening or initial briefs shall contain the following matters in separately captioned sections:

(1) Introductory section describing the nature and background of the case, (2) proposed findings of fact in serially numbered paragraphs with reference to exhibit numbers and pages of the transcript, (3) argument based upon principles of law with appropriate citations of the authorities relied upon, and (4) conclusions.

(e) All briefs shall contain a subject index or table of contents with page references and a list of authorities cited.

(f) All briefs filed pursuant to this section shall ordinarily be limited to eighty (80) pages in length, exclusive of pages containing the table of contents, table of authorities, and certificate of service, unless the presiding officer allows the parties to exceed this limit for good cause shown and upon application filed not later than five (5) days before the time fixed for filing of such a brief or reply. [Rule 221.]

[49 FR 44369, Nov. 6, 1984, as amended at 61 FR 51233, Oct. 1, 1996; 64 FR 7810, Feb. 17, 1999]

§ 502.222 Requests for enlargement of time for filing briefs.

Requests for enlargement of time within which to file briefs shall conform to the requirements of § 502.102. Except for good cause shown, such requests shall be filed and served pursuant to subpart H of this part not later than five (5) days before the expiration of the time fixed for the filing of the briefs. [Rule 222.]

§ 502.223 Decisions—Administrative law judges.

To the administrative law judges is delegated the authority to make and serve initial or recommended decisions. All initial and recommended decisions will include a statement of findings and conclusions, as well as the reasons or basis therefor, upon all the material issues presented on the record, and the appropriate rule, order, sanction, relief, or denial thereof. Where appropriate, the statement of findings and conclusions should be numbered. Initial decisions should address only those issues necessary to a resolution of the material issues presented on the record. A copy of each decision when issued shall be served on the parties to

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the proceeding. In proceedings involving overcharge claims, the presiding officer may, where appropriate, require that the carrier publish notice in its tariff of the substance of the decision. This provision shall also apply to decisions issued pursuant to subpart T of this part. [Rule 223.]

[64 FR 7810, Feb. 17, 1999]

§ 502.224 Separation of functions.

The separation of functions as required by 5 U.S.C. 554(d) shall be observed in proceedings under subparts A to Q inclusive, of this part. [Rule 224.]

§ 502.225 Decisions—Commission.

All final decisions will include a statement of findings and conclusions, as well as the reasons or basis therefor, upon all the material issues presented on the record, and the appropriate rule, order, sanction, relief, or denial thereof. A copy of each decision when issued shall be served on the parties to the proceeding. This provision shall also apply to decisions issued pursuant to subpart T of this part. [Rule 225.]

[64 FR 7810, Feb. 17, 1999]

§ 502.226 Decision based on official notice; public documents.

(a) Official notice may be taken of such matters as might be judicially noticed by the courts, or of technical or scientific facts within the general knowledge of the Commission as an expert body, provided, that where a decision or part thereof rests on the official notice of a material fact not appearing in the evidence in the record, the fact of official notice shall be so stated in the decision, and any party, upon timely request, shall be afforded an opportunity to show the contrary.

(b) Whenever there is offered in evidence (in whole or in part) a public document, such as an official report, decision, opinion, or published scientific or economic statistical data issued by any of the executive departments (or their subdivisions), legislative agencies or committees, or administrative agencies of the Federal Government (including Government-owned corporations), or a similar document issued by a state or its agencies, and such document (or part thereof) has been shown

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by the offeror to be reasonably available to the public, such document need not be produced or marked for identification, but may be offered in evidence as a public document by specifying the document or relevant part thereof. [Rule 226.]

§ 502.227 Exceptions to decisions or orders of dismissal of administrative law judge; replies thereto; review of decisions or orders of dismissal by Commission; and judicial review.

(a)(1) Within twenty-two (22) days after date of service of the initial decision, unless a shorter period is fixed under § 502.103, any party may file a memorandum excepting to any conclusions, findings, or statements contained in such decision, and a brief in support of such memorandum. Such exceptions and brief shall constitute one document, shall indicate with particularity alleged errors, shall indicate transcript page and exhibit number when referring to the record, and shall be served on all parties pursuant to subpart H of this part.

(2) Any adverse party may file and serve a reply to such exceptions within twenty-two (22) days after the date of service thereof, which shall contain appropriate transcript and exhibit references.

(3) Whenever the officer who presided at the reception of the evidence, or other qualified officer, makes an initial decision, such decision shall become the decision of the Commission thirty (30) days after date of service thereof (and the Secretary shall so notify the parties), unless within such 30-day period, or greater time as enlarged by the Commission for good cause shown, request for review is made in exceptions filed or a determination to review is made by the Commission on its own initiative.

(4) A decision or order of dismissal by an administrative law judge shall only be considered final for purposes of judicial review if the party has first sought review by the Commission pursuant to this section.

(5) Upon the filing of exceptions to, or review of, an initial decision, such decision shall become inoperative until the Commission determines the matter.