permitted in connection with an appeal to the Legal Counsel or designee.

(e) On appeal, the Legal Counsel or designee may reduce any fees previously assessed.

(f)In the event that the Commission terminates its proceedings on a charge after the regional attorney or the regional attorney's designee denies a request for the charge file but during consideration of the requester's appeal from that denial, the request may be remanded for redetermination. The requester retains a right to appeal to the Legal Counsel from the decision on remand.

[49 FR 48040, Dec. 10, 1984, as amended at 52 FR 4902, Feb. 18, 1987; 54 FR 32062, Aug. 4, 1989; 56 FR 29579, June 28, 1991; 63 FR 1342, Jan. 9, 1998]

§ 1610.13 Maintenance of files.

(a) The Legal Counsel or designee, and regional attorneys, shall maintain files containing all material required to be retained by or furnished to them under this subpart. The material shall be filed by individual request indexed according to the exemptions asserted, and, to the extent feasible, indexed according to the type of records requested.

(b) The Legal Counsel or designee, shall also maintain a file open to the public, which shall contain copies of all grants or denials of appeals by the Commission. The material shall be indexed as stated in paragraph (a) of this section.

[45 FR 40605, June 16, 1980, as amended at 47 FR 46275, Oct. 18, 1982; 52 FR 4092, Feb. 18, 1987; 56 FR 29578, June 28, 1991]

§ 1610.14 Waiver of user charges.

(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section the Legal Counsel or designee and regional attorneys or designees shall assess fees where applicable in accordance with §1610.15 for search, review and duplication of records requested. They shall also have authority to furnish documents without any charge or at a reduced charge if disclosure of the information is in the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not

primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.

(b) District directors, field directors, area directors, local directors and the librarian are hereby authorized to collect fees where applicable in accordance with §1610.15 for duplication of records which are to be made available for public inspection and copying in the district, field, area or local office, or in the headquarters library in accordance with §1610.4(b). District directors, field directors, area directors, local directors and the librarian are hereby authorized to duplicate such records without charge, or at a reduced charge in accordance with the criteria of paragraph (a) of this section.

[52 FR 13830, Apr. 27, 1987, as amended at 54 FR 32062, Aug. 4, 1989; 56 FR 29578, June 28, 1991; 63 FR 1342, Jan. 9, 1998; 71 FR 26830, May 9, 2006]

§ 1610.15 Schedule of fees and method of payment for services rendered.

- (a) Fees shall be assessed in accordance with the fee schedule set forth in paragraph (c) of this section as follows:
- (1) When records are requested for commercial use, the Commission shall charge the full amount of its direct costs for document search, review and duplication. The Commission shall not charge for review at the administrative appeal level of an exemption already applied.
- (2) When records are not sought for commercial use and the request is made by an educational or noncommercial scientific institution, or a representative of the news media, the Commission shall charge the direct costs of document duplication after the first 100 pages. The first 100 pages of duplication under paragraph (a)(2) shall be provided without charge.
- (3) For all other record requests not falling under paragraph (a) (1) or (2) of this section, the Commission shall charge the direct costs for document search time after the first two hours and the direct costs for document duplication after the first 100 pages. The first two hours of search time and the first 100 pages of duplication under paragraph (a)(3) shall be provided without charge.