

**Subchapter E. PLEADINGS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.**

**§22.75. Examination and Correction of Pleadings and Documents.**

- (a) **Construction of pleadings and documents.** All documents shall be construed so as to do substantial justice.
- (b) **Procedural sufficiency of pleadings and documents.**
- (1) Except for motions for rehearing and replies to motions for rehearing, the filing clerk shall not accept documents that do not comply with §22.72 of this title (relating to Formal Requisites of Pleadings and Documents to be Filed with the Commission).
  - (2) All pleadings and documents that do not comply in all material respects with other sections of this chapter, shall be conditionally accepted for filing. Upon notification by the presiding officer of a deficiency in a pleading or document, the responsible party shall correct or complete the pleading or document in accordance with the notification. If the responsible party fails to correct the deficiency, the pleading or document may be stricken from the record.
- (c) **Notice of material deficiencies in rate change applications.** This subsection applies to applications for rate changes filed pursuant to PURA, Chapter 36, Subchapter C or Chapter 53, Subchapter C.
- (1) Motions to find a rate change application materially deficient shall be filed no later than 21 days after an application is filed. Such motions shall specify the nature of the deficiency and the relevant portions of the application, and cite the particular requirement with which the application is alleged not to comply. The applicant's response to a motion to find a rate change application materially deficient shall be filed no later than five working days after such motion is received.
  - (2) If within 35 days after filing of a rate change application, the presiding officer has not issued a written order concluding that material deficiencies exist in the application, the application shall be deemed sufficient.
  - (3) If the presiding officer determines that material deficiencies exist in an application, the presiding officer shall issue a written order within 35 days of the filing of the application specifying a time within which the applicant shall amend its application and correct the deficiency. The effective date of the proposed rate change will be 35 days after the filing of a sufficient application. The statutory deadlines shall be calculated based on the date of filing the sufficient application.
- (d) **Notice of material deficiencies in applications for certificates of convenience and necessity for transmission lines.**
- (1) Motions to find an application for certificate of convenience and necessity for transmission line materially deficient shall be filed no later than 21 days after an application is filed. Such motions shall specify the nature of the deficiency and the relevant portions of the application, and cite the particular requirement with which the application is alleged not to comply. The applicant's response to a motion to find an application for certificate of convenience and necessity for transmission line materially deficient shall be filed no later than five working days after such motion is received.
  - (2) If, within 35 days after filing of an application for certificate of convenience and necessity for transmission line, the presiding officer has not issued a written order concluding that material deficiencies exist in the application, the application shall be deemed sufficient.
  - (3) If the presiding officer determines that a material deficiency exists in an application, the presiding officer shall issue a written order within 35 days of the filing of the application specifying a time within which the applicant shall amend its application and correct the deficiency. Any statutory deadlines shall be calculated based on the date of filing the sufficient application.

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- (4) For an application for certificate of convenience and necessity filed pursuant to Public Utility Regulatory Act §39.203(e), a pleading alleging a material deficiency in the application shall be filed no later than 14 days after the application is filed, and shall be served on the applicant by hand delivery, facsimile transmission, or overnight courier delivery and on the other parties pursuant to §22.74(b) of this title (relating to Service of Pleadings and Documents). The applicant shall reply to a pleading alleging a material deficiency no later than seven days after it is received. If the presiding officer determines that a material deficiency exists in an application, the presiding officer shall issue a written order within 28 days of the filing of the application ordering the applicant to amend its application and correct the deficiency within seven days. This order shall be served on the applicant by hand delivery, facsimile transmission, or overnight courier delivery and on the other parties pursuant to §22.74(b) of this title. If the applicant does not timely amend its application and correct the deficiency, the presiding officer shall dismiss the application without prejudice.
- (e) **Additional requirements.** Additional requirements as set forth in §22.76 of this title (relating to Amended Pleadings) apply.