

Environmental Protection Agency

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the hearing clerk, if it is filed during the course of the hearing, shall be also filed with the Presiding Officer. A copy of each document or paper filed by any party with the Presiding Officer, with the hearing clerk, or with the Administrator shall be served upon all other parties, except to the extent that the list of parties to be so served may be modified by order of the Presiding Officer, and each such document or paper shall be accompanied by a certificate of such service.

(b) A party may be represented in any proceeding under this part by an attorney or other authorized representative. When any document or paper is required under these rules to be served upon a party such service shall be made upon such attorney or other representative.

(c) Except where these rules or an order of the Presiding Officer require receipt of a document by a certain date, any document or paper required or authorized to be filed by this part shall be deemed to be filed when post-marked, or in the case of papers delivered other than by mail, when received by the hearing clerk.

(d) Sundays and legal holidays shall be included in computing the time allowed for the filing of any document or paper, provided, that when such time expires on a Sunday or legal holiday, such period shall be extended to include the next following business day.

PART 105—RECOGNITION AWARDS UNDER THE CLEAN WATER ACT

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AUTHORITY: Section 501(a) and (e) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. 1361(a) and (e).

SOURCE: 67 FR 6142, Feb. 8, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

GENERAL

§ 105.1 Background.

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Water Act (CWA) Recognition Awards Program is authorized by CWA section 501(e). The Administrator may provide official recognition to industrial organizations and political subdivisions of States which during the preceding year demonstrated an outstanding technological achievement or an innovative process, method or device in their waste treatment and pollution abatement programs. The wastewater management programs can generally be characterized as waste treatment and/or pollution abatement programs. Individual EPA Regional Administrators (and Regional officials they may designate) also may conduct Regional CWA Recognition Awards Programs according to and consistent with the provisions of this part.

§ 105.2 Definitions.

Applicant means the person authorized to complete the application on behalf of an industrial organization or political subdivision of States.

Application means a completed questionnaire, nomination form, or other documentation submitted to or by the States, EPA Regions or headquarters for consideration of a national CWA Recognition Award.

I means the applicant for an award.

Industrial organization means any company, corporation, association, partnership, firm, university, not-for-profit organization, or wastewater

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treatment facility, as well as a Federal, State or Tribal government wastewater treatment facility, or U.S. military command to the extent such government and other organizations operate in an "industrial" capacity in the treatment of wastes or abatement of pollution.

Nominee means a candidate recommended by the State or Tribe or EPA for consideration for a CWA Recognition Award.

Political subdivision of State means a municipality, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (including an intermunicipal agency of two or more of the foregoing entities) created by or pursuant to State law.

State means any of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands.

State water pollution control agency means the State agency designated by the Governing Authority having responsibility for enforcing State laws relating to the abatement of water pollution.

You means the applicant for an award.

§ 105.3 Title.

The awards are known as the National Clean Water Act Recognition Awards (hereinafter, the Awards Program).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

§ 105.4 What are the requirements for the Awards Program?

(a) EPA will administer the Awards Program, and should establish annual guidance as necessary to administer the Awards Program. EPA will request from the various offices, and States and Tribes as appropriate, nominations for the Awards Program.

(b) Nominees must be in total compliance with all applicable water quality requirements under the CWA in order to be eligible for an award, and otherwise have a satisfactory record with respect to environmental quality.

(c) Nominees must provide written documentation as evidence to support

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their outstanding technological achievement or innovative process, method or device in their waste treatment and/or pollution abatement programs.

(d) EPA may issue annual guidance memoranda to administer each year's awards programs. For information on the availability of additional guidance, contact the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Municipal Assistance Branch, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Mail Code 4204-M, Washington, DC 20460. You may also visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/owm.

§ 105.5 Who is eligible to win an award?

A municipality, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, government agency, or other public body, (including an intermunicipal agency of two or more of the foregoing entities) created by or pursuant to State law; a company, corporation, association, partnership, firm, university, not-for-profit organization, or wastewater treatment facility, as well as a Federal, State or Tribal government wastewater treatment facility, or U.S. military command to the extent such government and other organizations operate in an industrial capacity in the treatment of wastes or abatement of pollution may be considered for a recognition award.

§ 105.6 What are the Awards Program categories for which I may be eligible?

EPA will publish from time to time, a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER announcing the current Awards Program categories. EPA also may subsequently discontinue, combine, or rename categories by notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

APPLICATION AND NOMINATION PROCESS

§ 105.7 How do I apply for an award?

You may contact your local EPA Regional office for information on the Awards Program guidance each year, or check the Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/intnet.htm>. EPA may use an application or nomination process, as appropriate for the program or Region.

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§ 105.8 When can I apply for an award?

You can contact your local EPA Regional office for award submission deadline information which may vary for the award categories, or check the Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/owm/intnet.htm>.

§ 105.9 How can I get nominated for an award?

You may apply to, or ask your State, Tribe or EPA Region to nominate you for an award. Only applications or nominations recommended by EPA Regions are considered for the national award. EPA personnel conduct compliance evaluations prior to presenting a national award.

SELECTION CRITERIA

§ 105.10 What do I need to be considered for an award?

Your facility or pollution abatement program must be in total compliance with all applicable water quality requirements, and otherwise have a satisfactory record with respect to environmental quality. Additionally, your facility or pollution abatement program must provide written documentation as evidence of an outstanding technological achievement or an innovative process, method or device demonstrated in the preceding year, which resulted in environmental benefits, cost savings and/or public acceptance.

§ 105.11 Who selects the award winners?

After EPA receives the completed application, the application is evaluated by a review committee. After the review committee completes its evaluation of the programs that have been nominated, they make recommendations for the national awards. EPA then analyzes the results and selects the award winners.

§ 105.12 How is the awards review committee selected?

EPA review committee members are selected by the EPA and in some cases, State or Tribal water pollution control agencies. The number of participants in a nominations review process is based on staff availability, and may be one person.

§ 105.13 How are the award winners selected?

Nominees and applications are recommended by EPA regions. EPA personnel conduct compliance evaluations prior to presenting a national award. EPA selects national award winners based on demonstrated evidence of outstanding and/or innovative wastewater treatment and pollution abatement programs or projects which result in environmental benefits, cost savings and/or public acceptance. Based upon results of review committee evaluations, the Agency selects first place winners for a national award in the appropriate awards categories. A second place winner may or may not be selected. EPA may or may not select an award winner for every awards program category. Award decisions are not subject to administrative review.

AWARDS RECOGNITION

§ 105.14 How are award winners notified?

EPA notifies national award winners by letter.

§ 105.15 How are award winners recognized?

EPA presents national award winners with a certificate or plaque at an awards presentation ceremony as recognition for an outstanding technological achievement or an innovative process, method or device in wastewater treatment and/or pollution abatement programs. The President of the United States, the Governor of the State, or Tribal leader of the jurisdiction reservation in which the awardee is situated, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate are notified by the Administrator.

§ 105.16 How are award winners publicized?

EPA announces the annual national recognition award winners through notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

PART 108—EMPLOYEE PROTECTION HEARINGS

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AUTHORITY: Sec. 507(e), Pub. L. 92-500, 86 Stat. 816 (33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*).

SOURCE: 39 FR 15398, May 3, 1974, unless otherwise noted.

§ 108.1 Applicability.

This part shall be applicable to investigations and hearings required by section 507(e) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.* (Pub. L. 92-500).

§ 108.2 Definitions.

As used in this part, the term:

(a) *Act* means the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended;

(b) *Effluent limitation* means any effluent limitation which is established as a condition of a permit issued or proposed to be issued by a State or by the Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to section 402 of the Act; any toxic or pretreatment effluent standard established under section 307 of the Act; any standard of performance established under section 306 of the Act; and any effluent limitation established under section 302, section 316, or section 318 of the Act.

(c) *Order* means any order issued by the Administrator under section 309 of the Act; any order issued by a State to secure compliance with a permit, or condition thereof, issued under a program approved pursuant to section 402 of the Act; or any order issued by a court in an action brought pursuant to section 309 or section 505 of the Act.

(d) *Party* means an employee filing a request under § 108.3, any employee similarly situated, the employer of any such employee, and the Regional Administrator or his designee.

(e) *Administrator* or *Regional Administrator* means the Administrator or a Regional Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

§ 108.3 Request for investigation.

Any employee who is discharged or laid-off, threatened with discharge or lay-off, or otherwise discriminated against by any person because of the alleged results of any effluent limitation or order issued under the Act, or any representative of such employee, may submit a request for an investigation under this part to the Regional Administrator of the region in which such discrimination is alleged to have occurred.

§ 108.4 Investigation by Regional Administrator.

Upon receipt of any request meeting the requirements of § 108.3, the Regional Administrator shall conduct a full investigation of the matter, in order to determine whether the request may be related to an effluent limitation or order under the Act. Following the investigation, the Regional Administrator shall notify the employee requesting the investigation (or the employee's representative) and the employer of such employee, in writing, of his preliminary findings and conclusions. The employee, the representative of such employee, or the employer may within fifteen days following receipt of the preliminary findings and conclusions of the Regional Administrator request a hearing under this part. Upon receipt of such a request, the Regional Administrator, with the concurrence of the Chief Administrative Law Judge, shall publish notice of a hearing to be held not less than 30 days following the date of such publication where he determines that there are factual issues concerning the existence of the alleged discrimination or its relationship to an effluent limitation or order under the Act. The notice shall specify a date before which any party (or representative of such party) may submit a request to appear.

§ 108.5 Procedure.

Any hearing held pursuant to this part shall be of record and shall be conducted according to the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 554. The Administrative Law Judge shall conduct the hearing in an orderly and expeditious manner. By agreement of the parties, he may dismiss the hearing. The Administrative