

§ 116.3

(i) The authorized committee that has assigned the debts otherwise qualifies for termination under 11 CFR 102.3; and

(ii) The authorized committee that received the assigned debts notifies the Commission in writing that it has assumed the obligation to pay the entire amount owed and that it has assumed the obligation to report the debts, and any contributions received for retirement of the assigned debts, in accordance with 11 CFR part 104. The assigned debts shall be disclosed on a separate schedule of debts and obligations attached to the authorized committee's reports. Contributions received for retirement of the assigned debts shall be disclosed on a separate schedule of receipts attached to the authorized committee's reports. See 11 CFR 110.1 (b)(3) and (b)(4) and 110.2 (b)(3) and (b)(4). The authorized committee that has assigned the debts shall notify each creditor in writing of the assignment no later than thirty days before the assignment takes effect and shall include the name and address of the authorized committee that will receive the assigned debts.

§ 116.3 Extensions of credit by commercial vendors.

(a) *Unincorporated vendor.* A commercial vendor that is not a corporation may extend credit to a candidate, a political committee or another person on behalf of a candidate or political committee. An extension of credit will not be considered a contribution to the candidate or political committee provided that the credit is extended in the ordinary course of the commercial vendor's business and the terms are substantially similar to extensions of credit to nonpolitical debtors that are of similar risk and size of obligation.

(b) *Incorporated vendor.* A corporation in its capacity as a commercial vendor may extend credit to a candidate, a political committee or another person on behalf of a candidate or political committee provided that the credit is extended in the ordinary course of the corporation's business and the terms are substantially similar to extensions of credit to nonpolitical debtors that are of similar risk and size of obligation.

11 CFR Ch. I (1–1–10 Edition)

(c) *Ordinary course of business.* In determining whether credit was extended in the ordinary course of business, the Commission will consider—

(1) Whether the commercial vendor followed its established procedures and its past practice in approving the extension of credit;

(2) Whether the commercial vendor received prompt payment in full if it previously extended credit to the same candidate or political committee; and

(3) Whether the extension of credit conformed to the usual and normal practice in the commercial vendor's trade or industry.

(d) *Extension of credit by regulated industries.* The Commission may rely on the regulations prescribed by the Federal Communications Commission, the Interstate Commerce Commission, and the Department of Transportation on behalf of the Civil Aeronautics Board, issued pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 451 and any other regulations prescribed by other Federal agencies to determine whether extensions of credit by the entities regulated by those Federal agencies were made in the ordinary course of business.

§ 116.4 Forgiveness or settlement of debts owed to commercial vendors.

(a) *Unincorporated vendor.* A commercial vendor that is not a corporation may forgive or settle a debt incurred by a candidate, a political committee or another person on behalf of a candidate or political committee for less than the entire amount owed on the debt. The amount forgiven will not be considered a contribution by the commercial vendor to the candidate or political committee if—

(1) The amount forgiven is exempted from the definition of contribution in 11 CFR part 100, subpart C; or

(2) The commercial vendor has treated the debt in a commercially reasonable manner and the requirements of 11 CFR 116.7 or 116.8, as appropriate, are satisfied.

(b) *Incorporated vendor.* A corporation may not forgive or settle a debt incurred by a candidate, a political committee or another person on behalf of a candidate or political committee for less than the entire amount owed on the debt unless—