

§ 1720.175

copy by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, addressed to the person at the person's last known residence, or at the person's last known principal office or place of business. If the address of the residence, principal office, or place of business is unknown and cannot with due diligence be ascertained, service may be made by mail to any office at which the person to be served is known to be employed or by publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(c) *Service on corporations, partnerships, associations, other entities.* Service may be made upon any corporation, partnership, business association or other entity by serving any officer, director, partner, trustee, agent for service or managing agent thereof. A managing agent, within the meaning of this subsection, is an agent having the principal managerial responsibility in connection with the regular operation of a distinct office or activity of the enterprise.

(d) *Service through attorney.* When a person other than the Secretary and the Secretary's staff shall have appeared of record in a proceeding, generally or specially, by attorney, all subsequent services of notices, orders, processes, and other documents in connection with such proceeding may be made upon such person by serving the attorney, except that subpoenas and other orders by which such person may be brought in contempt shall be served upon the person by one of the methods described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section. In any case, a copy of any document served on a client shall be sent to any attorney who has entered an appearance for that client. In such situations, it shall be sufficient proof of service to show that either the client or the attorney has received a copy of the document.

(e) *Proof of service.* Proof of service shall not be required unless the fact of service is reasonably put in issue by appropriate motion or objection on the part of the person allegedly served or other party. In such cases, service may be established by written admission signed by or on behalf of the person to be served, or may be established prima facie by affidavit or certificate of service or mailing, as appropriate. When

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service is by registered or certified mail, it is complete upon delivery of the document by the post office.

§ 1720.175 Intervention by interested persons.

(a) The administrative law judge, upon timely petition in writing and for good cause shown, and if deemed to be in the public interest, may permit any person to participate by intervention in the proceeding. The petition shall state:

(1) The petitioner's relationship to and interest in the matters contained in the proceeding;

(2) The petitioner's position with respect to each specific issue upon which the petitioner proposes to intervene, and the facts which the petitioner proposes to adduce in support of each such position; and

(3) An assent to exercise of jurisdiction by the Department with respect to the petitioner.

(b) The administrative law judge shall determine the propriety of such intervention and the extent to which such intervenor may participate, basing such determination upon applicable law, the directness and substantiality of the petitioner's interest in the proceeding and the effect upon the proceeding of allowing such participation.

§ 1720.180 Settlements.

Parties may propose in writing, at any time during the course of a proceeding, offers of settlement which shall be submitted to the Secretary. If determined to be appropriate, the party making the offer may be given an opportunity to make an oral presentation in support of such offer. If an offer of settlement is rejected, the party making the offer shall be so notified and the offer shall be deemed withdrawn and shall not constitute a part of the record in the proceeding. Final acceptance by the Secretary of any offer of settlement will terminate any proceeding related thereto upon notification to the administrative law judge or the appeals officer.

PLEADINGS

§ 1720.205 Suspension notice under § 1710.45(a) of this chapter.

A suspension pursuant to §1710.45(a) of this chapter shall be effected by service of a suspension notice which shall contain:

(a) An identification of the filing to which the notice applies.

(b) A specification of the deficiencies of form, disclosure, accuracy, documentation or fee tender which constitute the grounds under §1710.45(a) of this chapter, of the suspension, and of the additional or corrective procedure, information, documentation, or tender which will satisfy the Secretary's requirements.

(c) A notice of the hearing rights of the developer under §1720.210 and of the procedures for invoking those rights.

(d) A notice that, unless otherwise ordered, the suspension shall remain in effect until 30 days after the developer cures the specified deficiencies as required by the notice.

§ 1720.210 Hearings—suspension notice pursuant to § 1710.45(a) of this chapter.

(a) A developer, upon receipt of a suspension notice issued pursuant to §1710.45(a) of this chapter, may obtain a hearing by filing a written request in accordance with the instructions regarding such request contained in the suspension notice. Such a request must be filed within 15 days of receipt of the suspension notice and must be accompanied by an answer and 3 copies thereof signed by the respondent or the respondent's attorney conforming to the requirements of §1720.245. Filing of a motion for a more definite statement pursuant to §1720.315 shall alter the period of time to request a hearing in accordance with §1720.240.

(b) When a hearing is requested pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, such hearing shall be held within 20 days of receipt of the request. The time and place for hearing shall be fixed with due regard for the public interest and the convenience and necessity of the parties or their representatives.

(c) A request for hearing filed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall not interrupt or annul the effec-

tiveness of the suspension notice, and suspension of the effective date of the Statement or amendment shall continue until vacated by order of the Secretary or administrative law judge. Except in cases in which the developer shall waive or withdraw the request for such hearing, or shall fail to pursue the same by appropriate appearance at a hearing duly scheduled, noticed and convened, the suspended filing shall be reinstated in the event of failure of the Secretary to schedule, give notice of or hold a duly-requested hearing within the time specified in paragraph (b) of this section, or in the event of a finding that the Secretary has failed to support at such hearing the propriety of the suspension with respect to the material issues of law and fact raised by the answer. Such reinstatement shall be effective on the date on which the filing would have become effective had no notice of suspension been issued with respect to it.

(d) If there is an outstanding suspension notice under §1710.45(a) with respect to the same matter for which a suspension order under §1710.45(b)(3) is issued, the notice and order shall be consolidated for the purposes of hearing. In the event that allegations upon which the suspension notice and suspension order are based are identical, only one answer need be filed.

§ 1720.215 Notice of proceedings pursuant to § 1710.45(b)(1) of this chapter.

A proceeding pursuant to §1710.45(b)(1) of this chapter is commenced by issuance and service of a notice which shall contain:

(a) A clear and accurate identification of the filing or filings to which the notice relates.

(b) A clear and concise statement of material facts, sufficient to inform the respondent with reasonable definiteness of the statements, omissions, conduct, circumstances or practices alleged to constitute the grounds for the proposed suspension order under §1710.45(b)(1) of this chapter.

(c) A notice of hearing rights of the developer under §1720.220 and of the procedures for invoking those rights.

(d) Designation of the administrative law judge appointed to preside over