Federal Maritime Commission

Subpart E—Proceedings

§ 550.501 Participation of interested persons.

In the event that participation of interested persons is deemed necessary by the Commission, notice will be published in the Federal Register and interested persons will then be allowed to participate in this proceeding by the submission of written data, views or arguments, with or without opportunity to present same orally.

§ 550.502 Discovery.

The Commission may authorize a party to a proceeding to use depositions, written interrogatories, and discovery procedures that, to the extent practicable, are in conformity with the rules applicable in civil proceedings in the district courts of the United States.

§ 550.503 Subpoenas.

In proceedings under this part, the Commission may by subpoena compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books, papers, documents, and other evidence.

§ 550.504 Witness fees.

In proceedings under this subpart, witnesses are, unless otherwise prohibited by law, entitled to the same fees and mileage as in the courts of the United States, subject to funds being provided by appropriations Acts.

§ 550.505 Failure to supply information.

For failure to supply information ordered to be produced or compelled by subpoena in proceedings under this part, the Commission may—

(a) After notice and an opportunity for hearing, suspend tariffs of a common carrier or that common carrier’s right to use the tariffs of conferences of which it is a member; or

(b) Assess a civil penalty of not more than $5,000 for each day that the information is not provided.

§ 550.506 Enforcement of orders.

In proceedings under this part, when a person violates an order of the Commission or fails to comply with a subpoena, the Commission may seek enforcement by a United States district court having jurisdiction over the parties.

§ 550.507 Postponement, discontinuance, or suspension of action.

The Commission may, on its own motion or upon petition, postpone, discontinue, or suspend any and all actions taken by it under the provisions of this part. The Commission shall postpone, discontinue or suspend any or all such actions if the President informs the Commission that postponement, discontinuance or suspension is required for reasons of foreign policy or national security.

§ 550.508 Publication, content, and effective date of regulation.

The Commission shall incorporate in any regulations adopted under the rules of this part a concise statement of their basis and purpose. Regulations shall be published in the Federal Register. Except where conditions warrant and for good cause, regulations promulgated under the rules of this part shall not become effective until at least 30 days after the date of publication.

Subpart F—Corrective Actions

§ 550.601 Actions to correct unfavorable conditions.

Upon submission of a petition filed under the rules of this part, or upon its own motion, the Commission may find that conditions unfavorable to shipping in the foreign trade of the United States do exist, and may, without further proceedings, issue regulations which may:

(a) Impose equalizing fees or charges;

(b) Limit sailings to and from United States ports or the amount or type of cargo carried;

(c) Suspend, in whole or in part, tariffs and service contracts for carriage to or from United States ports, including a common carrier’s right to use tariffs of conferences and service contracts of agreements in United States trades of which it is a member for any period the Commission specifies;

(d) Suspend, in whole or in part, an ocean common carrier’s right to operate under an agreement, including any