§ 16.201 Voting by the Commissioners without joint deliberation.

(a) Whenever the Commission’s Chairman so directs, any matter which (1) does not appear to require joint deliberation among the members of the Commission, or (2) by reason of its urgency, cannot be scheduled for consideration at a Commission meeting, may be disposed of by presentation of the matter separately to each of the members of the Commission. After consideration of the matter each Commission member shall report his vote to the Chairman.

(b) Whenever any member of the Commission so requests, any matter presented to the Commissioners for disposition pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section shall be withdrawn and scheduled instead for consideration at a Commission meeting.

(c) The provisions of §16.206(a) of these rules shall apply in the case of any Commission determination made pursuant to this section.

§ 16.202 Open meetings.

(a) Every portion of every meeting of the Commission shall be open to public observation unless closed to the public pursuant to the provisions of §16.203 (Formal Procedure) or §16.205 (Informal Procedure).

(b) The attendance of any member of the public is conditioned upon the orderly demeanor of such person during the conduct of Commission business. The public shall be permitted to observe and to take notes, but unless prior permission is granted by the Commission, shall not be permitted to record or photograph by means of any mechanical or electronic device any portion of meetings which are open to the public.

(c) The Commission shall be responsible for arranging a suitable site for each open Commission meeting so that ample seating, visibility, and acoustics are provided to the public and ample security measures are employed for the protection of Commissioners and Staff. The Commission shall be responsible for recording or developing the minutes of Commission meetings.

(d) Public notice of open meetings shall be given as prescribed in §16.204(a), and a record of votes kept pursuant to §16.206(a).

§ 16.203 Closed meetings—Formal procedure.

(a) The Commission, by majority vote, may close to public observation any meeting or portion thereof, and withhold from the public announcement concerning such meeting any information, if public observation or the furnishing of such information is likely to:

(1) Disclose matters:

   (i) Specifically authorized under criteria established by an executive order to be kept secret in the interests of national defense or foreign policy and
   (ii) In fact properly classified pursuant to such executive order;

(2) Relate solely to the internal personnel rules and practices of the Commission or any agency of the Government of the United States;

(3) Disclose matters specifically exempted from disclosure by statute (other than 5 U.S.C. 552, or the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure; Provided, That such statute or rule (i) requires that the matters be withheld in such a manner as to leave no discretion on the issue, or (ii) establishes particular criteria for withholding or refers to particular types of matters to be withheld, including exempted material under the Privacy Act of 1974 or the Commission’s Alternate Means of Access under the Privacy Act of 1974, as set forth at 28 CFR 16.83;

(4) Disclose a trade secret or commercial or financial information obtained from any person, corporation, business, labor or pension organization, which is