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decision of DOE. Upon completion of the reconciliation process, all records of SWU transactions shall be finalized and shall become the basis of subsequent Special Assessment invoices. These records shall be revised to reflect any decisions from the Office of Hearings and Appeals and any applicable court rulings.

(e) Refunds of Special Assessments shall be provided in cases where DOE has determined, as a result of reconciliation, that an overpayment has been made by a domestic utility, and that the domestic utility has no further current obligation to DOE.

[59 FR 41963, Aug. 15, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 15017, Mar. 21, 1995]

#### § 766.105 Payment procedures.

DOE shall specify payment details and instructions in all Special Assessment invoices. Each domestic utility shall make payments to the Fund by wire transfer to the Department of Treasury.

#### § 766.106 Late payment fees.

In the case of a late payment by a domestic utility of its Special Assessment, the domestic utility shall pay interest at the per annum rate (365-day basis) established by DOE for general application to monies due DOE and not received by DOE on or before a designated due date. Interest shall accrue beginning the date of the designated payment except that, whenever the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or a United States legal holiday, interest shall commence on the next day immediately following which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or United States legal holiday. Late payment provisions for the Special Assessment to the Fund shall be based on the Treasury Current Value of Funds Rate (which is published annually by the Treasury and used in assessing interest charges for outstanding debts on claims owed to the United States Government), plus six (6) percent pro rata on a daily basis. The additional six (6) percent charge shall not go into effect until five (5) business days after payment was originally due. Late payment fees shall be invoiced within two days of receipt of utility payment of the special assessment when delinquency is less than 30

days. For longer periods of delinquency, DOE will submit additional invoices, as appropriate. Late payment fees will be due 30 days from the date of invoice.

### § 766.107 Prepayment of future Special Assessments

DOE shall accept prepayment of future Special Assessments upon request by a domestic utility. A domestic utility's liability for the future assessments shall be satisfied to the extent of the prepayments. DOE shall use the pro rata share of prepayments attributable to a given fiscal year plus the Special Assessments collected from utilities who did not prepay for that fiscal year, in order to determine that the total amount of Special Assessments collected from domestic utilities in a given fiscal year does not exceed \$150 million, annually adjusted for inflation.

# PART 770—TRANSFER OF REAL PROPERTY AT DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sec.

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#### § 770.1

770.11 When does a claim "accrue" for purposes of notifying the Field Office Manager under §770.9(a) of this part?

AUTHORITY: 50 U.S.C. 2811.

SOURCE: 65 FR 10689, Feb. 29, 2000, unless otherwise noted

### § 770.1 What is the purpose of this part?

- (a) This part establishes how DOE will transfer by sale or lease real property at closed or downsized defense nuclear facilities for economic development.
- (b) This part also contains the procedures for a person or entity to request indemnification for any claim that results from the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant as a result of DOE activities at the defense nuclear facility.

[65 FR 10689, Feb. 29, 2000, as amended at 78 FR 67927, Nov. 13, 2013]

## § 770.2 What real property does this part cover?

- (a) DOE may transfer DOE-owned real property by sale or lease at closed or downsized defense nuclear facilities, for the purpose of permitting economic development.
- (b) DOE may transfer, by lease only, improvements at defense nuclear facilities on land withdrawn from the public domain, that are unneeded, temporarily underutilized, or underutilized, for the purpose of permitting economic development and for facilitating local reuse or redevelopment.

[65 FR 10689, Feb. 29, 2000, as amended at 78 FR 67927, Nov. 13, 2013]

## § 770.3 What general limitations apply to this part?

- (a) Nothing in this part affects or modifies in any way section 120(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9620(h)).
- (b) Individual proposals for transfers of property are subject to NEPA review as implemented by 10 CFR part 1021.
- (c) Any indemnification agreed to by the DOE is subject to the availability of funds.

## § 770.4 What definitions are used in this part?

Community Reuse Organization or CRO means a governmental or non-governmental organization that is recognized by DOE and that represents a community adversely affected by DOE work force restructuring at a defense nuclear facility..

*Claim* means a request for reimbursement of monetary damages.

Defense Nuclear Facility means "Department of Energy defense nuclear facility" within the meaning of section 318 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2286g).

DOE means the United States Department of Energy.

DOE Field Office means any of DOE's officially established organizations and components located outside the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. (See Field Office Manager.)

Economic Development means the use of transferred DOE real property in a way that enhances the production, distribution, or consumption of goods and services in the surrounding region(s) or which furthers reuse or redevelopment, and furthers the public policy objectives of the laws governing the downsizing of DOE's defense nuclear facilities.

Field Office Manager means the head of the DOE Operations Offices or Field Offices associated with the management and control of defense nuclear facilities.

Hazardous Substance means a substance within the definition of "hazardous substances" in subchapter I of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) (42 U.S.C. 9601(14)).

Indemnification means the responsibility for reimbursement of payment for any suit, claim, demand or action, liability, judgment, cost, or other fee arising out of any claim for personal injury or property damage, including business losses consistent with generally accepted accounting practices, which involve the covered real property transfers. Indemnification payments are subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

Person or Entity means any state, any political subdivision of a state or any

individual person that acquires ownership or control of real property at a defense nuclear facility.

Pollutant or Contaminant means a substance identified within the definition of "pollutant or contaminant" in section 101(33) of CERCLA (42 U.S.C. 9601(33)).

Real Property means all interest in land, together with the improvements, structures, and fixtures located on the land (usually including prefabricated or movable structures), and associated appurtenances under the control of any federal agency.

Release means a "release" as defined in subchapter I of CERCLA (42 U.S.C. 9601(22)).

Underutilized Real Property or Temporarily Underutilized Real Property means the entire property or a portion of the real property (with or without improvements) that is used only at irregular intervals, or which is used by current DOE missions that can be satisfied with only a portion of the real property. Underutilized property is available by lease only.

Unneeded Real Property means any property under DOE control that the Field Office, cognizant program, or the Secretary of Energy have determined, according to applicable procedures, to be no longer needed for the purposes of conducting DOE business.

[65 FR 10689, Feb. 29, 2000, as amended at 78 FR 67927, Nov. 13, 2013]

#### § 770.5 How does DOE notify persons and entities that defense nuclear facility real property is available for transfer for economic development?

- (a) Field Office Managers annually make available to Community Reuse Organizations, local government, and Tribal nations, and other persons and entities a list of real property at defense nuclear facilities that DOE has identified as appropriate for transfer for economic development. Field Office Managers may use any effective means of publicity to notify potentially-interested persons or entities of the availability of the list.
- (b) Upon request, Field Office Managers provide to interested persons and entities relevant information about listed real property, including information about a property's physical condi-

tion, environmental, safety and health matters, and any restrictions or terms of transfer.

[65 FR 10689, Feb. 29, 2000, as amended at 78 FR 67927, Nov. 13, 2013]

## § 770.6 May interested persons and entities request that real property at defense nuclear facilities be transferred for economic development?

Any person or entity may request that specific real property be made available for transfer for economic development pursuant to procedures in §770.7. A person or entity must submit such a request in writing to the Field Office Manager who is responsible for the real property.

# § 770.7 What procedures are to be used to transfer real property at defense nuclear facilities for economic development?

- (a) *Proposal*. The transfer process starts when a potential purchaser or lessee submits to the Field Office Manager a proposal for the transfer of real property that DOE has included on a list of available real property, as provided in § 770.5 of this part.
- (1) A proposal must include (but is not limited to):
- (i) A description of the real property proposed to be transferred;
- (ii) The intended use and duration of use of the real property, including potential users and an indication that these users are interested in participating in the economic development of the property;
- (iii) A description of the economic development that would be furthered by the transfer (e.g., jobs to be created or retained, improvements to be made) or what reuse or reutilization would be accomplished by means of a description of the business to be created (direct and indirect economic benefits that will result due to the proposed transfer):
- (iv) Information supporting the economic viability of the proposed development; and
- (v) The consideration offered and any financial requirements.
- (2) The person or entity should state in the proposal whether it is or is not requesting indemnification against

#### §770.8

claims based on the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant resulting from DOE activities.

- (3) If a proposal for transfer does not contain a statement regarding indemnification, the Field Office Manager will notify the person or entity by letter of the potential availability of indemnification under this part, and will request that the person or entity either modify the proposal to include a request for indemnification or submit a statement that it is not seeking indemnification.
- (b) Decision to transfer real property. After review of the proposal, DOE will notify, by letter, the person or entity that submitted the proposal of DOE's decision whether or not a transfer of the real property by sale or lease is in the best interest of the Government. If DOE determines the transfer is in the Government's best interest, then the Field Office Manger will begin development of a transfer agreement.
- (c) Congressional committee notification. DOE may not transfer real property under this part until 30 days have elapsed after the date DOE notifies congressional defense committees of the proposed transfer. The Field Office Manager will notify congressional defense committees through the Secretary of Energy.

[65 FR 10689, Feb. 29, 2000, as amended at 78 FR 67927, Nov. 13, 2013]

#### § 770.8 May DOE transfer real property at defense nuclear facilities for economic development at less than fair market value?

DOE generally attempts to obtain fair market value for real property transferred for economic development, but DOE may agree to sell or lease such property for less than fair market value if the statutory transfer authority used imposes no market value restriction, and:

- (a) The real property requires considerable infrastructure improvements to make it economically viable, or
- (b) A conveyance at less than market value would, in the DOE's judgment, further the public policy objectives of the laws governing the downsizing of defense nuclear facilities.

# § 770.9 What conditions apply to DOE indemnification of claims against a person or entity based on the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant attributable to DOE?

- (a) If an agreement for the transfer of real property for economic development contains an indemnification provision, the person or entity requesting indemnification for a particular claim must:
- (1) Notify the Field Office Manager in writing within two years after such claim accrues under §770.11 of this part:
- (2) Furnish the Field Office Manager, or such other DOE official as the Field Office Manager designates, with evidence or proof of the claim;
- (3) Furnish the Field Office Manager, or such other DOE official as the Field Office Manager designates, with copies of pertinent papers (e.g., legal documents) received by the person or entity:
- (4) If requested by DOE, provide access to records and personnel of the person or entity for purposes of defending or settling the claim; and
- (5) Provide certification that the person or entity making the claim did not contribute to any such release or threatened release.
- (b) DOE will enter into an indemnification agreement if DOE determines that indemnification is essential for the purpose of facilitating reuse or redevelopment.
- (c) DOE may not indemnify any person or entity for a claim if the person or entity contributed to the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant that is the basis of the claim.
- (d) DOE may not indemnify a person or entity for a claim made under an indemnification agreement if the person or entity refuses to allow DOE to settle or defend the claim.
- (e) Any indemnification provided will apply to any successor, assignee, transferee, lender or lessee of the original entity that acquires ownership or control.

[65 FR 10689, Feb. 29, 2000, as amended at 78 FR 67927, Nov. 13, 2013]

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# § 770.10 When must a person or entity, who wishes to contest a DOE denial of request for indemnification of a claim, begin legal action?

If DOE denies the claim, DOE must provide the person or entity with a notice of final denial of the claim by DOE by certified or registered mail. The person or entity must begin legal action within six months after the date of mailing.

# § 770.11 When does a claim "accrue" for purposes of notifying the Field Office Manager under § 770.9(a) of this part?

For purposes of §770.9(a) of this part, a claim "accrues" on the date on which the person asserting the claim knew, or reasonably should have known, that the injury to person or property was caused or contributed to by the release or threatened release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant as a result of DOE activities at the defense nuclear facility on which the real property is located.

#### PART 780—PATENT COMPENSA-TION BOARD REGULATIONS

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AUTHORITY: 42 U.S.C. 7151, 7254; 42 U.S.C. 5814, 5815; 42 U.S.C. 2183, 2187, 2223; 35 U.S.C. 183; North American Free Trade Agreement, Article 1709(10), as implemented by the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementing Act, Pub. L. 103–182.

Source: 46 FR 39581, Aug. 4, 1981, unless otherwise noted.

#### Subpart A—General Provisions

#### § 780.1 Scope.

The regulations in this part establish the procedures, terms, and conditions for Patent Compensation Board:

(a) Proceedings to declare a patent affected with the public interest pursuant to section 153a of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (Pub. L. 83–703; 42 U.S.C. 2183);