

**§ 503.8 Effect of noncompliance.**

No decision, statement of policy, interpretation, or staff manual or instruction that affects any member of the public will be relied upon, used, or cited as precedent by the Commission against any private party unless it has been indexed and either made available or published as provided by this part, or unless that private party shall have actual and timely notice of the terms thereof.

**§ 503.9 Availability of records.**

(a) Each person desiring access to a record covered by this part must comply with the following provisions:

(1) A written request must be made for the record.

(2) Such request must indicate that it is being made under the Freedom of Information Act.

(3) The envelope in which the request is sent must be prominently marked with the letters "FOIA".

(4) The request must be addressed to the appropriate official or employee of the Commission as set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.

(5) The foregoing requirements must be complied with whether the request is mailed or hand-delivered to the Commission.

(b) If the requirements of paragraph (a) of this section are not met, the ten day time limit described in § 503.10(a) will not begin to run until the request has been identified by an official or employee of the Commission as a request under the Freedom of Information Act and has been received by the appropriate official or employee of the Commission.

(c) Each person desiring access to a record covered in this part that is located in the Commission, or to obtain a copy of such a record, must make a written request to the Administrative Officer, Foreign Claims Settlement Commission, 1111 20th Street NW., Washington, DC 20579.

(d) Each request should reasonably describe the particular record requested. The request should specify the subject matter, the date when it was made and the person or office that made it. If the description is insufficient, the official or employee handling the request may notify the person

making the request and, to the extent possible, indicate the additional data required.

(e) Each record made available under this section is available for inspection and copying during regular working hours. Original documents may be copied but may not be released from custody.

(f) Authority to administer this part in connection with Commission records is delegated to the Administrative Officer or the Commission employee acting in that official's capacity.

**§ 503.10 Actions on requests.**

(a) The Administrative Officer or any employee acting in that official's capacity shall determine within ten days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) after the receipt of any such request whether to comply with such request. Upon receipt of a request for a Commission record which is available, the Administrative Officer or other employee shall notify the requester as to the time the record is available, and shall promptly make the record available after advising such requester of the applicable fees under § 503.13. The person making such request shall be notified immediately after any adverse determination, the reasons for making such adverse determination and the right of such person to appeal.

(b) Any denial of a request for a record shall be written and signed by the Administrative Officer or other employee, including a statement of the reason for denial. Such statement shall contain, as applicable:

(1) A reference to the specific exemption under the Freedom of Information Act authorizing the withholding of a record, and to the extent consistent with the purpose of the exemption, an explanation of how the exemption applies to the record withheld.

(2) If a record requested does not exist or has been legally disposed of, the requester shall be so notified.

(c) In unusual circumstances, the time limit prescribed in paragraph (a) may be extended by written notice to the person making such request setting forth the reasons for such extension and the date on which a determination is expected to be dispatched. No such