

where necessary, such incorporated material shall be identified by document title and page.

[Amdt. 106-13, 61 FR 51336, Oct. 1, 1996]

**§ 106.23 Consideration of comments received.**

All timely comments and the recommendations of any technical advisory body established by statute for the purpose of reviewing the proposed rule concerned are considered before final action is taken on a rulemaking proposal. Late filed comments are considered so far as practicable.

**§ 106.25 Additional rulemaking proceedings.**

The Administrator may initiate any further rulemaking proceedings that the Administrator finds necessary or desirable. For example, interested persons may be invited to make oral arguments, to participate in conferences between the Administrator or the Administrator's representative and interested persons at which minutes of the conference are kept, to appear at informal hearings presided over by officials designated by the Administrator at which a transcript of minutes are kept, or participate in any other proceeding to assure informed administrative action and to protect the public interest.

[40 FR 31768, July 29, 1975. Redesignated by Amdt. 102-1, and Amdt. 106-1, 43 FR 43306, Sept. 25, 1978, as amended by Amdt. 106-13, 61 FR 51336, Oct. 1, 1996]

**§ 106.27 Hearings.**

(a) If a notice of proposed rulemaking does not provide for a hearing, any interested person may petition the Administrator for an informal hearing. The petition must be received by the Administrator not later than 20 days before expiration of the time stated in the notice. The filing of the petition does not automatically result in the scheduling of a hearing. A petition is granted only if the petitioner shows good cause for a hearing. If a petition for a hearing is granted, notice of the hearing is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) Sections 556 and 557 of title 5, United States Code, do not apply to hearings held under this part. Unless otherwise specified, hearings held

under this part are informal, non-adversary, fact-finding proceedings, at which there are not formal pleadings or adverse parties. Any regulation issued in a case in which an informal hearing is held is not necessarily based exclusively on the record of the hearing.

(c) The Administrator designates a representative to conduct any hearing held under this part. The Chief Counsel designates a member of his or her staff to serve as legal officer at the hearing.

[40 FR 31768, July 29, 1975. Redesignated by Amdt. 102-1, and Amdt. 106-1, 43 FR 43306, Sept. 25, 1978, as amended by Amdt. 106-13, 61 FR 51336, Oct. 1, 1996]

**§ 106.29 Adoption of final rules.**

Final rules are prepared by representatives of the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety concerned and the Office of the Chief Counsel. The regulation is then submitted to the Administrator for consideration. If the Administrator adopts the regulation, it is published in the FEDERAL REGISTER, unless all persons subject to it are named and are personally served with a copy of it.

[40 FR 31768, July 29, 1975. Redesignated by Amdt. 102-1, and Amdt. 106-1, 43 FR 43306, Sept. 25, 1978, as amended by Amdt. 106-13, 61 FR 51336, Oct. 1, 1996]

**§ 106.31 Petitions for rulemaking.**

(a) Any interested person may petition the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety to establish, amend, or repeal a substantive regulation, or may petition the Chief Counsel to establish, amend, or repeal a procedural regulation in parts 106 or 107.

(b) Each petition filed under this section must—

(1) Summarize the proposed action and explain its purpose;

(2) State the text of the proposed rule or amendment, or specify the rule proposed to be repealed;

(3) Explain the petitioner's interest in the proposed action and the interest of any party the petitioner represents; and

(4) Provide information and arguments that support the proposed action, including relevant technical, scientific or other data as available to the petitioner, and any specific known

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cases that illustrate the need for the proposed action.

(c) If the potential impact of the proposed action is substantial, and information and data related to that impact are available to the petitioner, the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety or the Chief Counsel may request the petitioner to provide—

(1) The costs and benefits to society and identifiable groups within society, quantifiable and otherwise;

(2) The direct effects (including pre-emption effects) of the proposed action on States, on the relationship between the Federal Government and the States, and on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government;

(3) The regulatory burden on small businesses, small organizations and small governmental jurisdictions;

(4) The recordkeeping and reporting requirements and to whom they would apply; and

(5) Impacts on the quality of the natural and social environments.

(d) The Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety or Chief Counsel may return a petition that does not comply with the requirements of this section, accompanied by a written statement indicating the deficiencies in the petition.

[Amdt. 106-11, 61 FR 30180, June 14, 1996, as amended by Amdt. 106-13, 61 FR 51336, Oct. 1, 1996]

### § 106.33 Processing of petition.

(a) *General.* Unless the Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel otherwise specifies, no public hearing, argument, or other proceeding is held directly on a petition before its disposition under this section.

(b) *Grants.* If the Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel determines that the petition contains adequate justification, he or she initiates rulemaking action under this subpart.

(c) *Denials.* If the Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel determines that the petition does not justify rulemaking, the petition is denied.

(d) *Notification.* The Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel will notify a petitioner, in writing, of the de-

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cision to grant or deny a petition for rulemaking.

[40 FR 31768, July 29, 1975. Redesignated by Amdt. 102-1, and Amdt. 106-1, 43 FR 43306, Sept. 25, 1978, as amended by Amdt. 106-11, 61 FR 30181, June 14, 1996; Amdt. 106-13, 61 FR 51336, Oct. 1, 1996]

### § 106.35 Petitions for reconsideration.

(a) Except as provided in §106.39(d), any interested person may petition the Associate Administrator for reconsideration of any regulation issued under this part, or may petition the Chief Counsel for reconsideration of any procedural regulation issued under this part and contained in this part or in part 107 of this chapter. It is requested, but not required, that three copies be submitted. The petition must be received not later than 30 days after publication of the rule in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Petitions filed after that time will be considered as petitions filed under §106.31. The petition must contain a brief statement of the complaint and an explanation as to why compliance with the rule is not practicable, is unreasonable, or is not in the public interest.

(b) If the petitioner requests the consideration of additional facts, the petitioner must state the reason they were not presented to the Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel within the prescribed time.

(c) The Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel does not consider repetitious petitions.

(d) Unless the Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel otherwise provides, the filing of a petition under this section does not stay the effectiveness of the rule.

[40 FR 31768, July 29, 1975. Redesignated by Amdt. 102-1, and Amdt. 106-1, 43 FR 43306, Sept. 25, 1978, as amended by Amdt. 106-11, 61 FR 30181, June 14, 1996; Amdt. 106-13, 61 FR 51337, Oct. 1, 1996]

### § 106.37 Proceedings on petitions for reconsideration.

(a) The Associate Administrator or the Chief Counsel may grant or deny, in whole or in part, any petition for reconsideration without further proceedings, except where a grant of the petition would result in issuance of a new final rule. In the event that the