

**§ 350.16 Address to send trade secrecy claims and petitions requesting disclosure.**

All claims of trade secrecy under sections 303(d)(2) and (d)(3), 311, 312, and 313 and all public petitions requesting disclosure of chemical identities claimed as trade secret should be sent to the following address: EPCRA Reporting Center, Environmental Protection Agency, P.O. Box 3348, Merrifield, VA 22116-3348, Attn:—.

[59 FR 43048, Aug. 22, 1994]

**§ 350.17 Appeals.**

(a) *Procedure for filing appeal.* A submitter may appeal an EPA determination under §§ 350.11 (a)(2)(i) or (b)(2)(i), by filing an appeal with the General Counsel. The appeal shall be addressed to: The Office of General Counsel, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Contracts and Information Law Branch, Room 3600M, LE-132G, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460.

The appeal shall contain the following:

(1) A letter requesting review of the appealed decision; and

(2) A copy of the letter containing EPA's decision upon which appeal is requested.

(b) Appeal of determination of insufficient claim.

(1) Where a submitter appeals a determination by EPA under § 350.11(a)(2)(i) that the trade secrecy claim presents insufficient support for a finding of trade secrecy, the General Counsel shall make one of the following determinations:

(i) The trade secrecy claim at issue meets the standards of sufficiency set forth in § 350.13; or

(ii) The trade secrecy claim at issue does not meet the standards of sufficiency set forth in § 350.13.

(2) If the General Counsel reverses the decision made by the EPA office handling the claim, the claim shall be processed according to § 350.11(a)(1). The General Counsel shall notify the submitter of the determination on appeal in writing, by certified mail (return receipt requested). The appeal determination shall include the date the appeal was received by the General Counsel, a statement of the decision

appealed from, a statement of the decision on appeal and the reasons for such decision.

(3) If the General Counsel upholds the determination of insufficiency made by the EPA office handling the claim, the submitter may seek review in U.S. District Court within 30 days after receipt of notice of the General Counsel's determination. The General Counsel shall notify the submitter of its determination on appeal in writing, by certified mail (return receipt requested). The appeal determination shall include the date the appeal was received by the General Counsel, a statement of the decision appealed from, a statement of the decision on appeal and the reasons for such decision, and a statement of the submitter's right to seek review in U.S. District Court within 30 days of receipt of such notice. The petitioner shall be notified by regular mail.

(c) *Appeal of determination of no trade secret.* (1) If a submitter appeals from a determination by EPA under § 350.11(b)(2) that the specific chemical identity at issue is not a trade secret, the General Counsel shall make one of the following determinations:

(i) The assertions supporting the claim of trade secrecy are true and the chemical identity is a trade secret; or

(ii) The assertions supporting the claim of trade secrecy are not true and the chemical identity is not a trade secret.

(2) If the General Counsel reverses the decision made by the EPA office handling the claim, the General Counsel shall notify the submitter of its determination on appeal in writing, by certified mail (return receipt requested). The appeal determination shall include the date the appeal was received by the General Counsel, a statement of the decision appealed from, a statement of the decision on appeal and the reasons for such decision. The General Counsel shall send the petitioner the notice required in § 350.11(b)(1).

(3) If the General Counsel upholds the decision of the EPA office which made the trade secret determination, the submitter may seek review in U.S. District Court within 30 days of receipt of notice of the General Counsel's decision. The General Counsel shall notify

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the submitter of the determination on appeal in writing, by certified mail (return receipt requested). The notice shall include the date the appeal was received by the General Counsel, a statement of the decision appealed from, the basis for the appeal determination, that it constitutes final Agency action concerning the chemical identity trade secrecy claim, and that such final Agency action may be subject to review in U.S. District Court within 30 days of receipt of such notice. The General Counsel shall notify the petitioner by regular mail.

### **§ 350.18 Release of chemical identity determined to be non-trade secret; notice of intent to release chemical identity.**

(a) Where a submitter fails to seek review within U.S. District Court within 20 days of receiving notice of a determination of the General Counsel under § 350.17(b)(3) of this subpart that the trade secrecy claim is insufficient, or under § 350.17(c)(3) of this subpart that chemical identity claimed as trade secret is not entitled to trade secret protection, EPA may furnish notice of intent to disclose the chemical identity claimed as trade secret within 10 days by furnishing the submitter with the notice set forth in paragraph (d) of this section by certified mail (return receipt requested).

(b) Where a submitter fails to seek review within U.S. District Court within 20 days of receiving notice of an EPA determination under § 350.11(a)(2)(iv)(B), or § 350.11(a)(2)(v) of this regulation, or fails to pursue appeal to the General Counsel within 20 days after being notified of its right to do so under § 350.11(a)(2)(i) or § 350.11(b)(2)(i), EPA may furnish notice of intent to disclose the chemical identity claimed as trade secret within 10 days by furnishing the submitter with the notice set forth in paragraph (d) of this section by certified mail (return receipt requested).

(c) Where EPA, upon initial review under § 350.9(d), determines that the chemical identity claimed as trade secret in a submittal submitted pursuant to this part is the subject of a prior final Agency determination concerning a claim of trade secrecy for the same

chemical identity for the same facility, in which such claim was held invalid, EPA shall furnish notice of intent to disclose chemical identity within 10 days by furnishing the submitter with the notice set forth in paragraph (d) of this section by certified mail (return receipt requested).

(d) EPA shall furnish notice of its intent to release chemical identity claimed as trade secret by sending the following notification to submitters, under the circumstances set forth in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section. The notice shall state that EPA will make the chemical identity available to the petitioner and the public on the tenth working day after the date of the submitter's receipt of written notice (or on such later date as the Office of General Counsel may establish), unless the Office of General Counsel has first been notified of the submitter's commencement of an action in Federal court to obtain judicial review of the determination at issue, and to obtain preliminary injunctive relief against disclosure, or, where applicable, as described in paragraph (b) of this section, of commencement of an appeal to the General Counsel. The notice shall further state that if Federal court action is timely commenced, EPA may nonetheless make the information available to the petitioner and the public (in the absence of an order by the court to the contrary), once the court has denied a motion for a preliminary injunction in the action or has otherwise upheld the EPA determination, or, that if Federal court action or appeal to the General Counsel is timely commenced, EPA may nonetheless make the information available to the petitioner and the public whenever it appears to the General Counsel, after reasonable notice to the submitter, that the submitter is not taking appropriate measures to obtain a speedy resolution of the action.

### **§ 350.19 Provision of information to States.**

(a) Any State may request access to trade secrecy claims, substantiations, supplemental substantiations, and additional information submitted to EPA. EPA shall release this information, even if claimed confidential, to any State requesting access if: