

§ 4.420

HEARINGS PROCEDURES

HEARINGS PROCEDURES; GENERAL

§ 4.420 Applicability of general rules.

To the extent they are not inconsistent with these special rules, the general rules of the Office of Hearings and Appeals in subpart B of this part are also applicable to hearings, procedures.

§ 4.421 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) *Secretary* means the Secretary of the Interior or his authorized representatives.

(b) *Director* means the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, the Associate Director or an Assistant Director.

(c) *Bureau* means Bureau of Land Management.

(d) *Board* means the Board of Land Appeals in the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary. The terms "office" or "officer" as used in this subpart include "Board" where the context requires.

(e) *Administrative law judge* means an administrative law judge in the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, appointed under section 3105 of title 5 of the United States Code.

(f) *State Director* means the supervising Bureau of Land Management officer for the State in which the particular range lies, or his authorized agent.

(g) *District manager* means the supervising Bureau of Land Management officer of the grazing district in which the particular range lies, or his authorized agent.

[36 FR 7186, Apr. 15, 1971, as amended at 36 FR 15117, Aug. 13, 1971]

§ 4.422 Documents.

(a) *Grace period for filing.* Whenever a document is required under this subpart to be filed within a certain time and it is not received in the proper office during that time, the delay in filing will be waived if the document is filed not later than 10 days after it was required to be filed and it is determined that the document was transmitted or probably transmitted to the office in which the filing is required before the end of the period in which it

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was required to be filed. Determinations under this paragraph shall be made by the officer before whom is pending the appeal or contest in connection with which the document is required to be filed. This paragraph does not apply to requests for postponement of hearings under §§ 4.452-1 and 4.452-2.

(b) *Transferees and encumbrancers.* Transferees and encumbrancers of land, the title to which is claimed or is in the process of acquisition under any public land law shall, upon filing notice of the transfer or encumbrance in the proper land office, become entitled to receive and be given the same notice of any contest, appeal, or other proceeding thereafter initiated affecting such interest which is required to be given to a party to the proceeding. Every such notice of a transfer or encumbrance will be noted upon the records of the land office. Thereafter such transferee or encumbrancer must be made a party to any proceedings thereafter initiated adverse to the entry.

(c) *Service of documents.* (1) Wherever the regulations in this subpart require that a copy of a document be served upon a person, service may be made by delivering the copy personally to him or by sending the document by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to his address of record in the Bureau.

(2) At the conclusion of any document that a party must serve under the regulations in this part, the party or its representative must sign a written statement certifying that service has been or will be made in accordance with the applicable rules and specifying the date and manner of such service.

(3) A document will be considered to have been served at the time of personal service, of delivery of a registered or certified letter, or of the return by the post office of an undelivered registered or certified letter.

(d) *Extensions of time.* The Manager or the administrative law judge, as the case may be, may extend the time for filing or serving any document in a contest.

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