

former employee, or applicant for employment, for records for use in prosecuting a grievance or complaint of discrimination against the Committee, fees shall be waived where the total charges (including charges for information provided under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) are \$50 or less; but the Secretary may waive fees in excess of that amount.

(h) *Special services* The Secretary may agree to provide, and set fees to recover the costs of, special services not covered by the Freedom of Information Act, such as certifying records or information and sending records by special methods such as express mail or overnight delivery.

APPENDIX A TO §271.9—FREEDOM OF INFORMATION FEE SCHEDULE

Duplication:	
Photocopy, per standard page	\$.10
Paper copies of microfiche, per frame10
Duplicate microfiche, per microfiche35
Search and review:	
Clerical/Technical, hourly rate	20.00
Professional/Supervisory, hourly rate	38.00
Manager/Senior Professional, hourly rate	65.00
Computer search and production:	
Computer operator search, hourly rate	32.00
Tapes (cassette), per tape	6.00
Tapes (cartridge), per tape	9.00
Tapes (reel), per tape	18.00
Diskettes (3½"), per diskette	4.00
Diskettes (5¼"), per diskette	5.00
Computer Output (PC), per minute10
Computer Output (mainframe)	actual cost

PART 272—RULES OF PROCEDURE

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- 272.1 Authority.
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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552.

SOURCE: 38 FR 2754, Jan. 30, 1973, unless otherwise noted.

§272.1 Authority.

This part is issued by the Federal Open Market Committee (the Committee) pursuant to the requirement of section 552 of title 5 of the United States Code that every agency shall publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER its rules of procedure.

§272.2 Functions of the Committee.

The procedures followed by the Committee are designed to facilitate the effective performance of the Committee's statutory functions with respect to the regulation and direction of open market operations conducted by the Federal Reserve banks and with respect to

certain direct transactions between the Reserve banks and the United States. In determining the policies to be followed in such operations, the Committee considers information regarding business and credit conditions and domestic and international economic and financial developments, and other pertinent information gathered and submitted by its staff and the staffs of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (the Board) and the Federal Reserve banks. Against the background of such information, the Committee takes actions from time-to-time to regulate and direct the open market operations of the Reserve banks. Such policy actions ordinarily are taken through the adoption and transmission to the Federal Reserve banks of regulations, authorizations, and directives.

§272.3 Meetings.

(a) *Place and frequency.* The Committee meets in Washington, DC, at least four times each year and oftener if deemed necessary. Meetings are held upon the call of the Chairman of the Board or at the request of any three

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members of the Committee. Notices of calls by the Chairman of the Board to other members are given by the Secretary of the Committee in writing, by telephone, or electronic means. Requests of any three members for the calling of a meeting shall state the time therefor and shall be filed in writing, by telephone, or electronic means with the Secretary who shall forthwith notify all members of the Committee in writing, by telephone, or electronic means. When the Secretary has sent notices to all members of the Committee that a meeting has been requested by three members and of the time therefor, a meeting is deemed to have been called. If, in the judgment of the Chairman, circumstances require that a meeting be called at such short notice that one or more members cannot be present in Washington, such members may participate in the meeting by telephone conference arrangements.

(b) *Alternates.* Whenever any member of the Committee representing Federal Reserve banks shall find that he will be unable to attend a meeting of the Committee, he shall promptly notify his alternate and the Secretary of the Committee in writing, by telephone, or electronic means, and upon receipt of such notice the alternate shall advise the Secretary whether he will attend such meeting.

(c) *Quorum.* Seven members (including alternates present and acting in the absence of members) constitute a quorum for the transaction of business; but less than a quorum may adjourn from time to time until a quorum is in attendance.

(d) *Attendance at meetings.* Attendance at Committee meetings is restricted to members and alternate members of the Committee, the Presidents of Federal Reserve Banks who are not at the time members or alternates, staff officers of the Committee, the Managers, and such other advisers as the Committee may invite from time to time.

(e) *Meeting agendas.* The Secretary, in consultation with the Chairman, prepares an agenda of matters to be discussed at each meeting and the Secretary transmits the agenda to the members of the Committee within a

reasonable time in advance of such meeting. In general, the agendas include approval of minutes of actions; reports by the Managers on open market operations since the previous meeting, and ratification by the Committee of such operations; reports by Economists on, and Committee discussion of, the economic and financial situation and outlook; Committee discussion of monetary policy and action with respect thereto; and such other matters as may be considered necessary.

[38 FR 2754, Jan. 30, 1973, as amended at 44 FR 52823, Sept. 11, 1979; 65 FR 6320, Feb. 9, 2000]

§ 272.4 Committee actions.

(a) *Actions at meetings.* Actions are taken at meetings of the Committee except as described below.

(b) *Actions between meetings.* Special circumstances may make it desirable in the public interest for Committee members to consider an action to modify an outstanding Committee authorization or directive at a time when it is not feasible to call a meeting. Whenever, in the judgment of the Chairman, such circumstances have arisen, the relevant information and recommendations for action are transmitted to the members by the Secretary, and the members communicate their votes to the Secretary. If the action is approved by a majority of the members, advice to that effect is promptly given by the Secretary to the members of the Committee and to the Reserve bank selected to execute transactions for the System Open Market Account. All communications of recommended actions and votes under this paragraph shall be in writing, by telephone, or electronic means; if the communication is made orally, the Secretary shall cause a written record to be made without delay. An action taken between meetings has the force and effect of an action at a meeting: *Provided, however,* That if a meeting is held before the execution of any operations pursuant to the action, the action is null and void unless it is ratified and confirmed by the Committee at such meeting.

(c) *Delegations of authority.* In special circumstances, the Committee may delegate authority to take an action,