

§ 669.13

in § 669.9 to the FHWA Division Administrator prior to July 1.

§ 669.13 Effect of failure to certify or to adequately obtain proof of payment.

Beginning July 1, 1986, if a state fails to certify as required by this regulation or if the Secretary of Transportation determines that a state is not adequately obtaining proof of payment of the heavy vehicle use tax as a condition of registration notwithstanding the state's certification, Federal-aid highway funds apportioned to the state under 23 U.S.C. 104(b)(5) for the next fiscal year shall be reduced in an amount up to 25 percent as determined by the Secretary.

§ 669.15 Procedure for the reduction of funds.

(a) If it appears to the Federal Highway Administrator that a state has not submitted a certification conforming to the requirements of this regulation or that the state is not adequately obtaining proof of payment of the heavy vehicle use tax under 23 U.S.C. 141(d), the Federal Highway Administrator shall make in writing a proposed determination of nonconformity, and shall notify the Governor of the state of the proposed determination by certified mail. The notice shall state the reasons for the proposed determination and inform the state that it may, within 30 days from the date of the notice, request a conference to show cause why it should not be found in nonconformity.

(b) The conference will be informal in nature and conducted by the Administrator, or his/her designee. In all instances where the state proceeds on this basis, a transcript will be made and furnished to the state by FHWA. The state may offer any information which it considers helpful to a resolution of the matter, and the scope of review at the conference shall include, but not be limited to, state legislative actions (including those proposed to remedy deficiencies), budgetary considerations, judicial actions, and proposals for specific actions which will be implemented to bring the state into compliance.

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(c) The state has the option to request such a conference, or it may submit such information in writing to the Administrator, who will make a determination on the basis of such materials and other available information.

§ 669.17 Compliance finding.

(a) If, following the conference or review of submitted materials described in § 669.15, the Administrator concludes that the state is in compliance, the Administrator shall issue a decision which is the final decision, and the matter shall be concluded.

(b) If, following the conference or review of information submitted under § 669.15, the Administrator, with the concurrence of the Secretary, concludes that the state is in noncompliance, the Administrator shall issue a decision, which is the final decision, and the matter be concluded. The decision will be served on the Governor, or his/her designee.

§ 669.19 Reservation and reapportionment of funds.

(a) The Administrator may reserve from obligation up to 25 percent of a state's apportionment of funds under 23 U.S.C. 104(b)(5), pending a final determination.

(b) Funds withheld pursuant to a final administrative determination under this regulation shall be reapportioned to all other eligible states pursuant to the formulas of 23 U.S.C. 104(b)(5) and the apportionment factors in effect at the time of the original apportionments, unless the Secretary determines, on the basis of information submitted by the state, that the state has come into conformity with this regulation prior to the final determination. If the Secretary determines that the state has come into conformity, the withheld funds shall be released to the state subject to the availability of such funds under 23 U.S.C. 118(b).

(c) The reapportionment of funds under paragraph (b) of this section shall be stayed during the pendency of any judicial review of the Secretary's final determination of nonconformity.