

**§ 26.18 Depositions.**

(a) *General.* A party may take the oral deposition of any person. Upon refusal and, after a showing of good cause, a hearing officer may issue an order compelling a party or its agents to appear for deposition.

(b) *Procedure.* Reasonable written notice of deposition shall be served upon the opposing party and the deponent. The attendance of a deponent may be compelled by subpoena where authorized by law.

(c) *Objections.* Each person testifying on oral deposition shall be placed under oath by the person before whom the deposition is taken. The deponent may be examined and cross-examined. Objection may be made at hearing to receiving in evidence any deposition or part of it for any reason which would require the exclusion if the witness were then present and testifying. The questions and the answers, together with all objections made, shall be recorded by the person before whom the deposition is to be taken, or under that person's direction.

(d) *Submission to deponent.* A transcript of the deposition shall be submitted to the deponent for examination and signature, unless submission is waived. Any changes in form or substance which the deponent desires to make shall be entered upon the transcript by the person before whom the deposition was taken, with a statement of reasons given by the deponent for making them. The transcript shall then be signed by the deponent, unless the parties by stipulation waive the signing or the deponent is ill, cannot be found, or refuses to sign. If the transcript is not signed, the person before whom the deposition was taken shall sign it and state on the record the reason that it is not signed.

(e) *Certification and filing.* The person before whom the deposition was taken shall certify on the transcript as to its accuracy. The original transcript and exhibits shall be sent by mail to the hearing officer unless otherwise directed in the order authorizing the taking of the deposition. Interested parties shall make their own arrangements with the person recording the testi-

mony for copies of the testimony and the exhibits.

(f) *Deposition as evidence.* Subject to appropriate rulings by the hearing officer on objections, the deposition or any part may be introduced into evidence for any purpose if the deponent is unavailable. Only that part of a deposition which is received in evidence at a hearing shall constitute a part of the record in the proceeding upon which a decision may be based. Nothing in this rule is intended to limit the use of a deposition for impeachment purposes.

(g) *Payment of fees.* Fees shall be paid by the person upon whose application the deposition is taken.

**§ 26.19 Request for production of documents.**

(a) *Request to produce.* At any time after a request for hearing has been filed, any party may serve upon any other party a written request to produce, and permit the party making the request to inspect and copy, any relevant designated documents (including writings, drawings, graphs, charts, and other data compilations). The request shall set forth the items to be inspected either by individual item or by category with reasonable particularity. The request shall specify a reasonable time, place, and manner of making the inspection and performing the related acts.

(b) *Response to request to produce.* The party upon whom the request is served shall serve a written response within twenty days after service of the request unless the Hearing Officer determines that a shorter or longer period is appropriate under the circumstances. The response shall state, with respect to each item or category, that inspection and related activities will be permitted as requested, unless the request is objected to, in which case the reasons for the objection shall be stated. If objection is made to part of an item or category, the part shall be specified. The party submitting the request may move for an order under § 26.17 with respect to any objection to or other failure to respond to the request or any part thereof, or any failure to permit inspection as requested.