

## Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

§ 4003.54

### § 4003.33 Where to submit request for reconsideration.

A request for reconsideration shall be submitted to the Director of the department within the PBGC that issued the initial determination, except that a request for reconsideration of a determination described in § 4003.1(b)(3)(ii) shall be submitted to the Executive Director. See § 4000.4 of this chapter for information on where to file.

[61 FR 34012, July 1, 1996, as amended at 68 FR 61352, Oct. 28, 2003]

### § 4003.34 Form and contents of request for reconsideration.

A request for reconsideration shall—

- (a) Be in writing;
- (b) Be clearly designated as a request for reconsideration;
- (c) Contain a statement of the grounds for reconsideration and the relief sought; and
- (d) Reference all pertinent information already in the possession of the PBGC and include any additional information believed to be relevant.

### § 4003.35 Final decision on request for reconsideration.

(a) Except as provided in paragraphs (a)(1) or (a)(2), final decisions on requests for reconsideration will be issued by the same department of the PBGC that issued the initial determination, by an official whose level of authority in that department is higher than that of the person who issued the initial determination.

(1) When an initial determination is issued by a Department Director, the Department Director (or an official designated by the Department Director) will issue the final decision on request for reconsideration of a determination other than one described in § 4003.1(b)(3)(ii).

(2) The Executive Director (or an official designated by the Executive Director) will issue the final decision on a request for reconsideration of a determination described in § 4003.1(b)(3)(ii).

(b) The final decision on a request for reconsideration shall be in writing, specify the relief granted, if any, state the reason(s) for the decision, and state that the person has exhausted his or her administrative remedies.

## Subpart D—Administrative Appeals

### § 4003.51 Who may appeal or participate in appeals.

Any person aggrieved by an initial determination to which this subpart applies may file an appeal. Any person who may be aggrieved by a decision under this subpart granting the relief requested in whole or in part may participate in the appeal in the manner provided in § 4003.57.

### § 4003.52 When to file.

Except as provided in §§ 4003.4 and 4003.5, an appeal under this subpart must be filed within 45 days after the date of the initial determination being appealed or, when administrative review includes a procedure in § 4903.33 of this chapter, by a date 60 days (or more) thereafter that is specified in the PBGC's notice of the right to request review.

### § 4003.53 Where to file.

An appeal or a request for an extension of time to appeal shall be submitted to the Appeals Board, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026. See § 4000.4 of this chapter for additional information on where to file.

[61 FR 34012, July 1, 1996, as amended at 68 FR 61352, Oct. 28, 2003]

### § 4003.54 Contents of appeal.

- (a) An appeal shall—
  - (1) Be in writing;
  - (2) Be clearly designated as an appeal;
  - (3) Contain a statement of the grounds upon which it is brought and the relief sought;
  - (4) Reference all pertinent information already in the possession of the PBGC and include any additional information believed to be relevant;
  - (5) State whether the appellant desires to appear in person or through a representative before the Appeals Board; and
  - (6) State whether the appellant desires to present witnesses to testify before the Appeals Board, and if so, state why the presence of witnesses will further the decision-making process.

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(b) In any case where the appellant believes that another person may be aggrieved if the PBGC grants the relief sought, the appeal shall also include the name(s) and address(es) (if known) of such other person(s).

**§ 4003.55 Opportunity to appear and to present witnesses.**

(a) At the discretion of the Appeals Board, any appearance permitted under this subpart may be before a hearing officer designated by the Appeals Board.

(b) An opportunity to appear before the Appeals Board (or a hearing officer) and an opportunity to present witnesses will be permitted at the discretion of the Appeals Board. In general, an opportunity to appear will be permitted if the Appeals Board determines that there is a dispute as to a material fact; an opportunity to present witnesses will be permitted when the Appeals Board determines that witnesses will contribute to the resolution of a factual dispute.

(c) Appearances permitted under this section will take place at the main offices of the PBGC, 1200 K Street NW., Washington, DC 20005-4026, unless the Appeals Board, in its discretion, designates a different location, either on its own initiative or at the request of the appellant or a third party participating in the appeal.

**§ 4003.56 Consolidation of appeals.**

(a) *When consolidation may be required.* Whenever multiple appeals are filed that arise out of the same or similar facts and seek the same or similar relief, the Appeals Board may, in its discretion, order the consolidation of all or some of the appeals.

(b) *Representation of parties.* Whenever the Appeals Board orders the consolidation of appeals, the appellants may designate one (or more) of their number to represent all of them for all purposes relating to their appeals.

(c) *Decision by Appeals Board.* The decision of the Appeals Board in a consolidated appeal shall be binding on all appellants whose appeals were subject to the consolidation.

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**§ 4003.57 Appeals affecting third parties.**

(a) Before the Appeals Board issues a decision granting, in whole or in part, the relief requested in an appeal, it shall make a reasonable effort to notify third persons who will be aggrieved by the decision of the following:

- (1) The pendency of the appeal;
- (2) The grounds upon which the appeal is based;
- (3) The grounds upon which the Appeals Board is considering reversing the initial determination;
- (4) The right to submit written comments on the appeal;
- (5) The right to request an opportunity to appear in person or through a representative before the Appeals Board and to present witnesses; and
- (6) That no further opportunity to present information to the PBGC with respect to the determination under appeal will be provided.

(b) Written comments and a request to appear before the Appeals Board must be filed within 45 days after the date of the notice from the Appeals Board.

(c) If more than one third party is involved, their participation in the appeal may be consolidated pursuant to the provisions of § 4003.56.

**§ 4003.58 Powers of the Appeals Board.**

In addition to the powers specifically described in this part, the Appeals Board may request the submission of any information or the appearance of any person it considers necessary to resolve a matter before it and to enter any order it considers necessary for or appropriate to the disposition of any matter before it.

**§ 4003.59 Decision by the Appeals Board.**

(a) In reaching its decision, the Appeals Board shall consider those portions of the file relating to the initial determination, all material submitted by the appellant and any third parties in connection with the appeal, and any additional information submitted by PBGC staff.

(b) The decision of the Appeals Board constitutes the final agency action by the PBGC with respect to the determination which was the subject of the