

§ 201.6

(5) Explain why the maximum speeds Amtrak desires are safe and practicable, or what track, signal system, or other facility improvements would make such speeds safe and practicable.

(d) In accordance with subsection 402(h) of the Act, Amtrak may apply to the Administrator for an order to require a railroad to permit or provide the operation of additional passenger trains on its rail lines. Each application shall:

(1) List the railroad, the endpoints of the proposed additional train or trains, and the proposed schedule for such additional train or trains, and

(2) Describe and give the background of all prior efforts and negotiations to obtain a satisfactory voluntary agreement with the railroad for the operation of the proposed additional train or trains.

(e) In addition to the data provided with their applications, applicants shall furnish the Administrator with any other information that the Administrator finds necessary in order to make the determinations required by the Act.

(f) Each applicant shall promptly notify, by registered or certified mail, any party affected by any application, whether Amtrak or a railroad, of the submission of each application under this part, and shall provide a copy of the application with such notice. An official U. S. Postal Service return receipt from the registered or certified mailing constitutes prima facie evidence of notice.

§ 201.6 Notice of hearing.

(a) A notice of hearing on an application shall be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(b) The notice shall state:

(1) The nature of the hearing;

(2) The place and date of the hearing. The date shall not be less than 60 days after publication of notice of the hearing;

(3) The legal authority under which the hearing is to be held;

(4) Issues of fact which may be involved in the hearing;

(5) If a draft Environmental Impact Statement is required, the date of publication of the draft and the place(s)

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where the draft and comments thereon may be viewed and copied;

(6) The place(s) where records and submitted direct testimony will be kept for public inspection;

(7) The final date for filing a notice of intent to participate in the hearing;

(8) The final date for submission of direct testimony on the application, and the number of copies required;

(9) The docket number assigned to the case, which shall be used in all subsequent proceedings; and

(10) The place and date of the pre-hearing conference.

§ 201.7 Notification by interested persons.

Any person desiring to participate as a party shall notify the Administrator, by registered or certified mail, on or before the date specified in the notice.

§ 201.8 Presiding officer.

(a) Upon publication of the notice of hearing pursuant to § 201.6, the Administrator shall appoint a presiding officer pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3105. No individual who has any conflict of interest, financial or otherwise, shall serve as presiding officer in such proceeding.

(b) The presiding officer, in any proceeding under this part, shall have power to:

(1) Change the time and place of the hearing and adjourn the hearing;

(2) Evaluate direct testimony submitted pursuant to these regulations, make a preliminary determination of the issues, conduct a prehearing conference to determine the issues for the hearing agenda, and cause to be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER a final hearing agenda;

(3) Rule upon motions, requests, and admissibility of direct testimony;

(4) Administer oaths and affirmations, question witnesses, and direct witnesses to testify;

(5) Modify or waive any rule (after notice) upon determining that no party will be prejudiced;

(6) Receive written comments and hear oral arguments;

(7) Render a recommended decision; and

(8) Do all acts and take all measures, including regulation of media coverage, for the maintenance of order at