

Saturday, Sunday, or federal legal holiday, in which case the period shall run until the end of the next business day.

(f)(1) The presiding official may extend the time for filing or serving any document except a notice of appeal.

(2) A request for an extension of time must be filed within the time originally allowed for filing.

(3) For good cause the presiding official may grant an extension of time on his or her own initiative.

#### § 577.7 Conduct of hearing.

(a) Once designated by the Commission, the presiding official shall set the case for hearing. The respondent may appear at the hearing personally, through counsel, or personally with counsel. The respondent shall have the right to introduce relevant written materials and to present an oral argument. At the discretion of the presiding official, a hearing under this section may include an opportunity to submit oral and documentary evidence and cross-examine witnesses.

(b) When holding a hearing under this part, the presiding official shall:

(1) Administer oaths and affirmations;

(2) Issue subpoenas authorized by the Commission;

(3) Rule on offers of proof and receive relevant evidence;

(4) Authorize exchanges of information (including depositions and interrogatories in accordance with 25 CFR part 571, subpart C) among the parties when to do so would expedite the proceeding;

(5) Regulate the course of the hearing;

(6) When appropriate, hold conferences for the settlement or simplification of the issues by consent of the parties;

(7) At any conference held pursuant to paragraph (b)(6) of this section, require the attendance of at least one representative of each party who has authority to negotiate the resolution of issues in controversy;

(8) Dispose of procedural requests or similar matters;

(9) Recommend decisions in accordance with § 577.14 of this part; and

(10) Take other actions authorized by the Commission consistent with this part.

(c) The presiding official may order the record to be kept open for a reasonable period following the hearing (normally five days), during which time the parties may make additional submissions to the record. Thereafter, the record shall be closed and the hearing shall be deemed concluded. Within 30 days after the record closes, the presiding official shall issue a recommended decision in accordance with § 577.14 of this part.

#### § 577.8 Request to limit disclosure of confidential information.

(a) If any person submitting a document in a proceeding that involves more than two parties claims that some or all of the information contained in that document is exempt from the mandatory public disclosure requirements under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), is information referred to in 18 U.S.C. 1905 (disclosure of confidential information), or is otherwise exempt by law from public disclosure, the person shall:

(1) Indicate that the document in its entirety is exempt from disclosure or identify and segregate information within the document that is exempt from disclosure; and

(2) Request that the presiding official not disclose such information to the parties to the proceeding (other than the Chairman, whose actions regarding the disclosure of confidential information are governed by § 571.3 of this chapter) except pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section, and shall serve the request upon the parties to the proceeding. The request to the presiding official shall include:

(i) A copy of the document, group of documents, or segregable portions of the documents marked "Confidential Treatment Requested"; and

(ii) A statement explaining why the information is confidential.

(b) A party to a proceeding may request that the presiding official direct a person submitting information under paragraph (a) of this section to provide that information to the party. The presiding official shall so direct if the