

(3) The deposition of a witness, whether or not a party, may be used by any party for any purpose if the administrative law judge finds: (i) That the witness is dead; or (ii) that the witness is unable to attend or testify because of age, illness, infirmity, or imprisonment; or (iii) that the party offering the deposition has been unable to procure the attendance of the witness by subpoena; or (iv) upon application and notice, that such exceptional circumstances exist as to make it desirable to allow the deposition to be used.

(4) If only part of a deposition is introduced in evidence by a party, any party may introduce any other parts by way of rebuttal and otherwise.

(f) *Stipulations.* If the parties so stipulate in writing, depositions may be taken before any person at any time or place, upon any notice and in any manner, and when so taken may be used like other depositions.

[43 FR 49259, Oct. 20, 1978; 43 FR 51401, Nov. 3, 1978]

§ 60-30.12 Prehearing conferences.

(a) Upon his own motion or the motion of the parties, the Administrative Law Judge may direct the parties or their counsel to meet with him for a conference to consider:

- (1) Simplification of the issues;
- (2) Necessity or desirability of amendments to pleadings for purposes of clarification, simplification, or limitation;
- (3) Stipulations, admissions of fact and of contents and authenticity of documents;
- (4) Limitation of number of witnesses;
- (5) Scheduling dates for the exchange of witness lists and of proposed exhibits;
- (6) Such other matters as may tend to expedite the disposition of the proceedings.

(b) The record shall show the matters disposed of by order and by agreement in such pretrial conferences. The subsequent course of the proceeding shall be controlled by such action.

§ 60-30.13 Consent findings and order.

(a) *General.* At any time after the issuance of a complaint and prior to or during the reception of evidence in any

proceeding, the parties may jointly move to defer the receipt of any evidence for a reasonable time to permit negotiation of an agreement containing consent findings and an order disposing of the whole or any part of the proceeding. The allowance of such deferment and the duration thereof shall be in the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge after consideration of the nature of the proceeding, the requirements of the public interest, the representations of the parties, and the probability of an agreement being reached which will result in a just disposition of the issues involved.

(b) *Content.* Any agreement containing consent findings and an order disposing of a proceeding shall also provide:

- (1) That the order shall have the same force and effect as an order made after full hearing;
- (2) That the entire record on which any order may be based shall consist solely of the complaint and the agreement;
- (3) That any further procedural steps are waived; and
- (4) That any right to challenge or contest the validity of the findings and order entered into in accordance with the agreement is waived.

(c) *Submission.* On or before the expiration of the time granted for negotiations, the parties or their counsel may:

- (1) Submit the proposed agreement to the Administrative Law Judge for his consideration;
- (2) Inform the Administrative Law Judge that agreement cannot be reached.

(d) *Disposition.* In the event an agreement containing consent findings and an order is submitted within the time allowed, the Administrative Law Judge, within 30 days, shall accept such agreement by issuing his decision based upon the agreed findings, and his decision shall constitute the final Administrative order.

[43 FR 49259, Oct. 20, 1978; 43 FR 51401, Nov. 3, 1978]

HEARINGS AND RELATED MATTERS

§ 60-30.14 Designation of Administrative Law Judges.

Hearings shall be held before an Administrative Law Judge of the Department of Labor who shall be designated by the Chief Administrative Law Judge of the Department of Labor. After commencement of the proceeding but prior to the designation of an Administrative Law Judge, pleadings and papers shall be filed with the Chief Administrative Law Judge.

[43 FR 49259, Oct. 20, 1978; 43 FR 51401, Nov. 3, 1978]

§ 60-30.15 Authority and responsibilities of Administrative Law Judges.

The Administrative Law Judge shall propose findings and conclusions to the Secretary on the basis of the record. In order to do so, he shall have the duty to conduct a fair hearing, to take all necessary action to avoid delay, and to maintain order. He shall have all powers necessary to those ends, including, but not limited to, the power to:

(a) Hold conferences to settle, simplify, or fix the issues in a proceeding, or to consider other matters that may aid in the expeditious disposition of the proceeding by consent of the parties or upon his own motion;

(b) Require parties to state their position with respect to the various issues in the proceeding;

(c) Require parties to produce for examination those relevant witnesses and documents under their control; and require parties to answer interrogatories and requests for admissions in full;

(d) Administer oaths;

(e) Rule on motions, and other procedural items or matters pending before him;

(f) Regulate the course of the hearing and conduct of participants therein;

(g) Examine and cross-examine witnesses, and introduce into the record documentary or other evidence;

(h) Receive, rule on, exclude, or limit evidence and limit lines of questioning or testimony which are irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious;

(i) Fix time limits for submission of written documents in matters before him and extend any time limits established by this part upon a determina-

tion that no party will be prejudiced and that the ends of justice will be served thereby;

(j) Impose appropriate sanctions against any party or person failing to obey an order under these rules which may include:

(1) Refusing to allow the disobedient party to support or oppose designated claims or defenses, or prohibiting it from introducing designated matters in evidence;

(2) Excluding all testimony of an unresponsive or evasive witness, or determining that the answer of such witness, if given, would be unfavorable to the party having control over him; and

(3) Expelling any party or person from further participation in the hearing;

(k) Take official notice of any material fact not appearing in evidence in the record, which is among the traditional matters of judicial notice;

(l) Recommend whether the respondent is in current violation of the order, regulations, or its contractual obligations, as well as the nature of the relief necessary to insure the full enjoyment of the rights secured by the order;

(m) Issue subpoenas; and

(n) Take any action authorized by these rules.

[43 FR 49259, Oct. 20, 1978; 43 FR 51401, Nov. 3, 1978]

§ 60-30.16 Appearances.

(a) *Representation.* The parties or other persons or organizations participating pursuant to this part 60-30 have the right to be represented by counsel.

(b) *Failure to appear.* In the event that a party appears at the hearing and no party appears for the opposing side, the party who is present shall have an election to present his evidence in whole or such portion thereof sufficient to make a prima facie case before the Administrative Law Judge. Failure to appear at the hearing shall not be deemed to be a waiver of the right to be served with a copy of the Administrative Law Judge's recommended decision and to file exceptions to it.