

## PART 3870—ADVERSE CLAIMS, PROTESTS AND CONFLICTS

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AUTHORITY: 30 U.S.C. 30; 43 U.S.C. 1201, 1457, 1701 *et seq.*

### Subpart 3871—Adverse Claims

SOURCE: 35 FR 9759, June 13, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

#### § 3871.1 Filing of claim.

(a) An adverse claim must be filed with the authorized officer of the proper office where the application for patent is filed or with the manager of the district in which the land is situated at the time of filing the adverse claim. The claim may be filed by the adverse claimant, or by his duly authorized agent or attorney in fact cognizant of the facts stated.

(b) Where an agent or attorney in fact files the adverse claim he must furnish proof that he is such agent or attorney.

(c) The agent or attorney in fact must sign the statement of the adverse claim within the land district where

the claim is situated, stating that it was so signed.

(d) Each adverse claim filed must include the processing fee for adverse claims found in the fee schedule in § 3000.12 of this chapter.

[35 FR 9759, June 13, 1970, as amended at 70 FR 58880, Oct. 7, 2005]

#### § 3871.2 Statement of claim.

(a) The adverse claim must fully set forth the nature and extent of the interference or conflict; whether the adverse party claims as a purchaser for valuable consideration or as a locator. If the former, a certified copy of the original location, the original conveyance, a duly certified copy thereof, or an abstract of title from the office of the proper recorder should be furnished, or if the transaction was a merely verbal one he will narrate the circumstances attending the purchase, the date thereof, and the amount paid, which facts should be supported by the statement of one or more witnesses, if any were present at the time, and if he claims as a locator he must file a duly certified copy of the location from the office of the proper recorder.

(b) In order that the “boundaries” and “extent” of the claim may be shown, it will be incumbent upon the adverse claimant to file a plat showing his entire claim, its relative situation or position with the one against which he claims, and the extent of the conflict: *Provided, however*, That if the application for patent describes the claim by legal subdivisions, the adverse claimant, if also claiming by legal subdivisions, may describe his adverse claim in the same manner without further survey or plat. If the claim is not described by legal subdivisions it will generally be more satisfactory if the plat thereof is made from an actual survey by a mineral surveyor and its correctness officially certified thereon by him.

#### § 3871.3 Action by authorized officer.

(a) Upon the adverse claim being filed within the 60-day period of publication, the authorized officer will immediately give notice in writing to the parties that such adverse claim has been filed, informing them that the party who filed the adverse claim will

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be required within 30 days from the date of such filing to commence proceedings in a court of competent jurisdiction to determine the question of right of possession, and to prosecute the same with reasonable diligence to final judgment, and that should such adverse claimant fail to do so, his adverse claim will be considered waived and the application for patent be allowed to proceed upon its merits.

(b) The Act of September 21, 1961 (Pub. L. 87-260; 75 Stat. 541), amends the Act of June 7, 1910 (36 Stat. 459; 48 U.S.C. 386), and provides that adverse suits against mineral entries in Alaska shall be instituted within the 60-day time limit set forth in R.S. 2325 and 2326, (30 U.S.C. 29, 30). The act further provides that where a mineral patent application was filed prior to the effective date of the act, the time in which to file adverse suits is governed by the Act of June 7, 1910. Where a mineral patent application was filed prior to September 21, 1961, the entry will not be allowed until after the expiration of eight months following the publication period.

### § 3871.4 Patent proceedings stayed when adverse claim is filed; exception.

When an adverse claim is filed as aforesaid, the authorized officer will endorse upon the same the precise date of filing and preserve a record of the date of notifications issued thereon; and thereafter all proceedings on the application for patent will be stayed with the exception of the completion of the publication and posting of notices and plat and the filing of the necessary proof thereof, until the controversy shall have been finally adjudicated in court or the adverse claim waiver or withdrawn.

### § 3871.5 Termination of adverse suit.

(a) Where an adverse claim has been filed and suit thereon commenced within the statutory period and final judgment rendered determining the right of possession, it will not be sufficient to file with the authorized officer a certificate of the clerk of the court setting forth the facts as to such judgment, but the successful party must, before he is allowed to make entry, file

a certified copy of the judgment roll, together with the other evidence required by R.S. 2326 (30 U.S.C. 30), and a certificate of the clerk of the court under the seal of the court showing, in accord with the record facts of the case, that the judgment mentioned and described in the judgment roll aforesaid is a final judgment; that the time for appeal therefrom has, under the law, expired, and that no such appeal has been filed, or that the defeated party has waived his right to appeal. Other evidence showing such waiver or an abandonment of the litigation may be filed.

(b) Where such suit has been dismissed, a certificate of the clerk of the court to that effect or a certified copy of the order of dismissal will be sufficient.

(c) After an adverse claim has been filed and suit commenced, a relinquishment or other evidence of abandonment of the adverse claim will not be accepted, but the case must be terminated and proof thereof furnished as required by the last two paragraphs.

### § 3871.6 Certificate required when no suit commenced.

Where an adverse claim has been filed but no suit commenced against the applicant for patent within the statutory period, a certificate to that effect by the clerk of the State court having jurisdiction in the case, and also by the clerk of the district court of the United States for the district in which the claim is situated, will be required.

## Subpart 3872—Protests, Contests and Conflicts

SOURCE: 35 FR 9760, June 13, 1970, unless otherwise noted.

### § 3872.1 Protest against mineral applications.

(a) At any time prior to the issuance of patent, protest may be filed against the patenting of the claim as applied for, upon any ground tending to show that the applicant has failed to comply with the law in any matter essential to a valid entry under the patent proceedings. Such protest cannot, however, be made the means of preserving