

claim is within §1308.6 and section 5 of the Act, the Contracting Officer's decision shall not state that opinion, but, contemporaneously with the decision, the Contracting Officer shall separately notify TVA's General Counsel of that opinion and the reasons therefor.

**§ 1308.17 Failure to render timely decision.**

Any failure by Contracting Officer to issue a decision on a submitted claim within the period required or permitted by §1308.13, will be deemed to be a decision by the Contracting Officer denying the claim and will authorize the commencement of an appeal on the claim under this part, or a suit on the claim as provided in section 10(a)(2) of the Act. If no appeal or suit pursuant to this section has been commenced at the time the Contracting Officer issues a decision, the right to sue or appeal and the time limits therefor shall be determined as otherwise provided in this part and the Act, and this section shall not authorize an appeal or suit from the decision.

**Subpart C—Board of Contract Appeals**

**§ 1308.21 Jurisdiction and organization.**

(a) The Board shall consider and determine timely appeals filed by Contractors from decisions of TVA Contracting Officers pursuant to a disputes clause.

(b) The Board shall consist of an indeterminate number of members, who shall serve on a part-time basis. The members of the Board shall all be attorneys at law duly licensed by any state, commonwealth, territory, or the District of Columbia. One of the members of the Board shall be designated as "Chairman" pursuant to section 8(b)(2) of the Act.

(c) Each appeal or other matter before the Board shall normally be assigned to a single Hearing Officer, to be designated by the Chairman. The Chairman may act as a Hearing Officer, and shall notify the Contractor and TVA of the name and mailing address of the person designated as Hearing Officer.

(d) If a member to whom an appeal has been assigned cannot perform in a timely manner the duties of Hearing Officer, because of unavailability or incapacity which would in the Chairman's judgment affect the expeditious and timely resolution of the appeal, or for any other reason deemed sufficient by the Chairman, the Chairman may take any action deemed appropriate to effectuate the disposition of the appeal and the rights of the parties under this part. The kind of action taken, and the manner thereof, shall be within the discretion of the Chairman, and may include, but is not limited to, action on pending motions, discovery, issuance of or ruling on objections to subpoenas, and reassignment of an appeal in whole or in part.

**§ 1308.22 Representation.**

(a) In any appeal to the Board, a Contractor may be represented by an attorney at law duly licensed by any state, commonwealth, territory, or the District of Columbia. A Contractor not an individual and not wishing to appear by an attorney may be represented by any member, partner, or officer duly authorized to act on Contractor's behalf, or if an individual, may appear personally.

(b) TVA shall be represented by attorneys from its Office of General Counsel.

**§ 1308.23 Finality of decisions.**

A decision by a Hearing Officer on an appeal shall be the decision of the Board and shall be final, subject only to amendment under §1308.37(c), reconsideration under §1308.38 or appeal pursuant to sections 8(g)(2) and 10(b) of the Act.

**§ 1308.24 Undue delay in Contracting Officer's decision.**

(a) If there is an undue delay by a Contracting Officer in issuing a decision on a claim, the Contractor may request the Chairman to direct the Contracting Officer to issue a decision within a specified period of time.

(b) A request under this section shall:

(1) Be in writing;

(2) State the date on which the claim was submitted to the Contracting Officer.