

§ 401.103

disclosable information would compromise or impinge upon the nondisclosable portion of the record.

§ 401.103 Request for existing records.

(a) Any written request to the Commission for existing records not prepared for routine distribution to the public shall be deemed to be a request for records pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, whether or not the Freedom of Information Act is mentioned in the request, and shall be governed by the provisions of this part.

(b) Records or documents prepared by the Commission for routine public distribution, e.g., pamphlets, speeches, public information and educational materials, shall be furnished free of charge upon request as long as the supply lasts. The provisions of this part shall not be applicable to such requests.

(c) All existing Commission records are subject to routine destruction according to standard record retention schedules.

§ 401.104 Preparation of new records.

The Freedom of Information Act and the provisions of this part apply only to existing records that are reasonably described in a request filed with the Commission pursuant to the procedures herein established. The Commission shall not be required to prepare new records in order to respond to a request for information.

§ 401.105 Indexes of certain records.

(a) Indexes shall be maintained, and revised at least quarterly, for the following Commission records:

(1) Final opinions and orders made in the adjudication of cases.

(2) Statements of policy and interpretation adopted by the Commission and still in force and not published in the FEDERAL REGISTER or official minutes of Commission meetings.

(3) Administrative staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect members of the public.

(b) A copy of each such index is available at cost of duplication from the FOIA Officer.

18 CFR Ch. III (4-1-07 Edition)

§ 401.106 FOIA Officer.

The Executive Director shall designate a Commission employee as the FOIA Officer. The FOIA Officer shall be responsible for Commission compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and these regulations. All requests for agency records shall be sent in writing to:

FOIA Officer
Delaware River Basin Commission
P.O. Box 7360
West Trenton, NJ 08628-0360

[40 FR 14056, Mar. 28, 1975; 40 FR 17987, Apr. 24, 1975. Redesignated at 52 FR 37602, Oct. 8, 1987, as amended at 63 FR 45943, Aug. 28, 1998]

§ 401.107 Permanent file of requests for Commission records.

The Commission shall maintain a permanent file of all requests for Commission records and all responses thereto, including a list of all records furnished in response to a request. This file is available for public review during working hours.

§ 401.108 Filing a request for records.

(a) All requests for Commission records shall be filed in writing delivered to the FOIA Officer, or by mailing it to the Commission. The Commission will supply forms for written requests.

(b) A request for Commission records shall reasonably describe the records being sought, in a way that they can be identified and located. A request should include all pertinent details that will help identify the records sought. A person requesting disclosure of records shall be permitted an opportunity to review them without the necessity for copying them where the records involved contain only disclosable data and information.

(1) If the description is insufficient to locate the records requested, the FOIA Officer will so notify the person making the request and indicate the additional information needed to identify the records requested.

(2) Every reasonable effort shall be made by the staff to assist in the identification and location of the records sought.

(3) In any situation in which it is determined that a request for voluminous

records would unduly burden and interfere with the operations of the Commission, the person making the request will be asked to be more specific and to narrow the request, and to agree on an orderly procedure for the production of the requested records.

(c) Upon receipt of a request for records, the FOIA Officer shall enter it in a public log (which entry may consist of a copy of the request). The log shall state the date and time received, the name and address of the person making the request, the nature of the records requested, the action taken on the request, the date of the determination letter sent pursuant to § 401.99(b), the date(s) any records are subsequently furnished, the number of staff-hours and grade levels of persons who spent time responding to the request, and the payment requested and received.

(d) A denial of a request for records, in whole or in part, shall be signed by the FOIA Officer. The name and title or position of each person who participated in the denial of a request for records shall be set forth in a letter denying the request. This requirement may be met by attaching a list of such individuals to the letter.

§ 401.109 Time limitations.

(a) All time limitations established pursuant to this section shall begin as of the time at which a request for records is logged in by the FOIA Officer pursuant to § 401.98(c). An oral request for records shall not begin any time requirement. A written request for records sent elsewhere within the Commission shall not begin any time requirement until it is redirected to the FOIA Officer and is logged in accordance with § 401.98(c). A request that is expected to involve fees in excess of \$50 will not be deemed received until the requester is promptly notified and agrees to bear the cost or has so indicated on his request.

(b) Within ten (10) working days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) after a request for records is logged by the FOIA Officer, the record shall be furnished or a letter shall be sent to the person making the request determining whether, or the extent to which, the Commission will

comply with the request, and, if any records are denied, the reasons therefor.

(1) If all of the records requested have been located and a final determination has been made with respect to disclosure of all of the records requested, the letter shall so state.

(2) If all of the records have not been located or a final determination has not yet been made with respect to disclosure of all of the records requested, the letter shall state the extent to which the records involved shall be disclosed pursuant to the rules established in this part.

(3) In the following unusual circumstances, the time for sending this letter may be extended by the Executive Director for up to an additional ten (10) working days by written notice to the person making the request setting forth the reasons for such extension and the time within which a determination is expected to be dispatched:

(i) The need to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the Commission's Headquarters.

(ii) The need to search for, collect and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records which are demanded in a single request.

(iii) The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency having a substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the Commission having substantial subject-matter interest therein.

(c) If any record is denied, the letter shall state the right of the person requesting such records to appeal any adverse determination to the Executive Director of the Commission. Such an appeal shall be filed within thirty (30) days from receipt of the FOIA Officer's determination denying the requested information (where the entire request has been denied), or from the receipt of any information made available pursuant to the request (where the request has been denied in part). Within twenty (20) working days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) after receipt of any appeal, or