

§ 6.5

quotas or fees in effect under section 22 may be warranted.

(b) *Section 8(a)*. The Administrator shall cause an immediate investigation to be made whenever (1) a request is received for emergency treatment in connection with an application properly filed with the Tariff Commission under section 7; (2) a request is received for emergency treatment under section 22 if the Administrator determines that there is reasonable ground to believe that the imposition of import quotas or fees under section 22 may be warranted; or (3) the Administrator, upon the basis of other information available to him, has reasonable ground for believing that emergency treatment under section 8(a) is necessary. The Administrator shall expedite to the fullest practicable extent his attention to requests for emergency treatment under section 8(a), and such requests shall receive priority over requests for other action under section 22. The investigation shall cover (1) whether the commodity is a perishable agricultural commodity; (2) whether, due to the perishability of the commodity, a condition exists requiring emergency treatment as indicated by such factors as (i) the marketing season for the commodity, (ii) past and prospective domestic production, stocks, requirements, and prices, (iii) past and prospective imports; and (3) such other matters as the Administrator determines are relevant to a determination as to whether emergency treatment for the commodity is necessary. No public hearing shall be held in connection with investigations under this paragraph.

§ 6.5 Hearings under section 22.

The Administrator is authorized to provide for such public hearings as he deems necessary to discharge the responsibility for action under section 22 vested in him by §§ 6.2 and 6.4(a). In view of the need, however, for prompt action on requests for action under section 22, public hearings shall be held in connection with investigations conducted under § 6.4(a) only when the Administrator determines that a public hearing is necessary to obtain supplementary information not otherwise available. Any public hearing which is held shall be conducted by representa-

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tives designated for the purpose by the Administrator; shall be preceded by such public notice as, in the opinion of the Administrator, will afford interested persons reasonable opportunity to attend and present information; and minutes of the proceedings at such hearing shall be obtained. Hearings shall be informal and technical rules of evidence shall not apply. Such hearings are for the purpose of obtaining information for the assistance of the Secretary. However, in discharging his responsibilities under section 22, the Secretary is not restricted to the information adduced at the hearings.

§ 6.6 Submission of recommendations under section 22.

(a) The Administrator shall make a report to the Secretary upon the completion of each investigation made by him pursuant to § 6.4(a). The report shall summarize the information disclosed by the investigation; shall contain the recommendations of the Administrator; and, in case action under section 22 is recommended, shall be accompanied by a suggested letter from the Secretary to the President recommending that the Tariff Commission be directed to conduct an investigation. Such report shall be submitted to the other offices, agencies, and bureaus of the Department of Agriculture whose activities would be affected, for concurrence or comment.

(b) The Secretary will recommend that the President direct the Tariff Commission to conduct an investigation under section 22 only if he has reason to believe, upon the basis of the information available to him, that import quotas or fees should be imposed.

§ 6.7 Submission of recommendations under section 8(a) (emergency treatment).

(a) *Section 22*. The Administrator's report submitted pursuant to § 6.6 shall indicate whether or not emergency treatment is necessary. If emergency treatment is recommended, the report shall discuss the condition which requires emergency treatment and be accompanied by suggested letters from the Secretary to the President, to the Tariff Commission, and to the petitioner (if any) advising them of the